

Conrad Grebel University College  
University of Waterloo  
Department of Music  
MUSIC 222: **Conducting 1** (Fall 2023)  
Class time: Tuesday/Thursday, 10.00-11:20  
Location: Conrad Grebel University College 1302

### Territorial Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

**Instructor:** Dr. Mark Vuorinen

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**Office Hours:** by appointment, in person or by Zoom

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**Course Description:** A study of conducting techniques appropriate for song leading, choral/instrumental rehearsal and public performance. The course will include score analysis and rehearsal procedures for music from a wide variety of historical styles.

### Basic Course Objectives:

1. Development of a gestural language relating to the conducting of choral music, including: technical facility in conducting simple and compound metres, ability to show clear cues and cut-offs, left-hand independence for interpretive gestures, and subdivisions.
2. Development of a systematic approach to preparing scores through analysis, 'hearing' the score, and using a clear and consistent method of score marking.
3. Development of a repertoire of rehearsal techniques (rehearsal pedagogy) and approaches for 'teaching' the score.

4. Develop an understanding of rehearsal planning.
5. Develop aural skills related to rehearsing.

### Required Materials (at every class):

- 12-14 inch, White Mollard Baton (or other well-balanced baton); available at area music stores (Long and McQuade or online); please ensure you have one by September 21
- Phone or tablet with camera capable of recording audio and video; will be used in class each time you conduct (for at-home review)
- Repertoire package (provided)
- Readings as assigned from *Basic Techniques of Conducting*, by **Kenneth Phillips** (Readings will be provided on LEARN- you do not need to purchase this), and other sources

### Student Responsibilities:

- **Practice everyday** (This is important for your development and improvement).
- Prepare for each class, by learning to sing or play assigned music, or gestural technique, and by preparing readings when assigned.
- Video yourself regularly, and regularly review your video. This is a great way to see first-hand what your ensemble is seeing.
- Be supportive of other students to create a positive learning environment. Provide feedback in a constructive and positive way.
- Complete and submit assignments on time.
- It is strongly advised that students enrolled in Music 222, participate as a chorister in one of the department's three choral ensembles or as a player in orchestra@uwaterloo. Ensemble participation is an excellent observation opportunity.

### Assignments and Evaluation:

Practical Evaluations	Weighting	Date
<b>Student evaluation is, in part, based on active participation in course activities: Weekly and ongoing preparation of course repertoire, preparatory exercises, score analysis, rehearsal plans and conducting sessions with self, peer and faculty assessments</b>	16%	ONGOING; prepared participation in conducting lab, Video submissions submitted, etc.
<b>Musical Skills: Error detection, Hindemith, and dictation exercises</b>	20%	September 28, October 19, November 2,

Practical Evaluations	Weighting	Date
		November 16, in class or submitted on LEARN
<b>Midterm conducting exam (emphasis on non-verbal communication )</b>	10%	Thursday Oct 26, in class
<b>Final conducting exam</b>	15%	Thursday Nov 30, in class

Written Assignments	Weighting	Date
<b>Conducting Reflection (see below for description)</b>	8%	September 22, Oct 27, Nov 17, Dec 5 (Fridays, submit on LEARN, except Dec 5)
<b>CD Reviews (3 total)</b>	6%	Friday September 15, September 29, Oct 20 (Fridays, on LEARN)
<b>Rehearsal Review:</b>	10%	Tuesday December 5, on LEARN
<b>Score Analysis and 5-rehearsal Plan:</b>	15%	October 31, hard copy, in class

### Assignment Descriptions:

**Conducting Reflection:** Students will write personal journal entries with reflections of their own work and development. Topics can include but are not limited to: self-analysis of video-taped conducting sessions, peer reviews, deconstruction of rehearsals, conducting strategies and challenges, analysis of rehearsals led by faculty, students and self, and discussion of assigned readings. Use these reflections as a means to communicate what is going well in your conducting practice and what you might be struggling with. Four (4) entries are to be made in the course of the semester (250-350 words each), and submitted to the instructor on LEARN on or before the assigned due dates.

**CD Reviews:** See separate assignment sheet for more details. To be submitted on LEARN, using the EXACT format provided. Maximum length 100 words, each.

**Rehearsal Observation:** Students will attend and observe a rehearsal of a choral or instrumental ensemble in-person. Write a review of the rehearsal experience with rehearsal pedagogy and techniques in mind. Maximum length: 3 pages, double-spaced. Some questions to keep in mind: What techniques were most useful? How would the techniques the conductor used change depending on the group or ensemble? How was the rehearsal structured? If more than one piece of music was rehearsed, was the order important? Your written comments should address the effectiveness of teaching strategies used by the conductor(s), rather than merely listing techniques. *In other words, in addition to commenting on what happened, focus on WHY they happened.*

**Score analysis and score preparation and rehearsal plan:** Students will choose a work from a list of repertoire provided, or select one with instructor consent. Maximum length, 1000 words

1. Prepare a marked score and written analysis using methods taught in class.
2. Write an analysis of the piece with conducting challenges and pedagogy in mind.
3. Develop a rehearsal plan for the work to be implemented over five, 10-12 minute rehearsals.

**Music Skills, Error Detection/Playing or singing of repertoire:** In submitted videos or in class, students will be asked to complete a musical skills assignment.

**Conducting Practicum and Participation:** Students will be videotaped each time they conduct in class and receive feedback in a masterclass-like format. This on-going evaluation includes preparedness for conducting, and also participating as a musician in the ensemble.

**Mid-term and Final Exams:**

The mid-term test and final exam activities will each take place in 2 parts and will be pre-recorded by the student. Details for both evaluations will be confirmed several weeks before the due date.

## UW Information on COVID-19

**Coronavirus Information:** Information regarding the university's policies and guidelines for learning during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found here: <https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/>

**Continuity of Education Plan:** Should the public health situation change during the course of the fall term, and if in-person classes are suspended, MUSIC 222 will move online with a regular meeting time on Zoom. <https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/university-waterloo-continuity-education-plan>

## UW Policies on Academic Integrity:

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Refer to Academic Integrity website (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) for details.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline. (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>) For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties

<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties>)

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - [Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt, please contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals). <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>

**Note for students with learning differences:** AccessAbility Services (<https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/>), located in Needles Hall Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Counselling Services:** Counselling Services provides free confidential counselling, in both individual and group sessions, with qualified professionals to help registered students, faculty and staff with personal concerns, educational career decisions, and strategies to studies and exams: [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs), ext. 33528, NH Room 2080.

**Accommodation for Illness:** A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the "University of Waterloo Verification of Illness" form or it will not be accepted. More information can be obtained from Health Services and the form is available in pdf: <https://uwaterloo.ca/health-services/student-medical-clinic/services/verification-illness>

**The Writing Centre:** Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments and presentations, using and documenting research, organizing and structuring papers, and revising for clarity and coherence. Make an appointment or drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit [www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre).

## Mental Health Support:

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](#). Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#). Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental

health support information.

## Generative AI in this class:

This course includes the independent development and practice of specific skills, such as conducting gesture, musicianship, score analysis. The use of Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) trained using large language models (LLM) or other methods to produce text, images, music, or code, like Chat GPT, DALL-E, or GitHub CoPilot, is not permitted in this class. Unauthorized use in this course, such as running course materials through GenAI or using GenAI to complete a course assessment is considered a violation of [Policy 71](#) (plagiarism or unauthorized aids or assistance). Work produced with the assistance of AI tools does not represent the author's original work and is therefore in violation of the fundamental values of academic integrity including honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and courage ([ICA](#), n.d.).

You should be prepared to show your work. To demonstrate your learning, you should keep your rough notes, including research notes, brainstorming, and drafting notes. You may be asked to submit these notes along with earlier drafts of their work, either through saved drafts or saved versions of a document. If the use of GenAI is suspected where not permitted, you may be asked to meet with your instructor or TA to provide explanations to support the submitted material as being your original work. Through this process, if you have not sufficiently supported your work, academic misconduct allegations may be brought to the Associate Dean.

In addition, you should be aware that the legal/copyright status of generative AI inputs and outputs is unclear. More information is available from the Copyright Advisory Committee:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-at-waterloo/teaching/generative-artificial-intelligence>

## Some Expectations: MUTUAL RESPECT

**Electronic devices:** Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during class: they distract your peers.

**Listening and speaking:** Speak and listen to each other with courtesy and respect.

**Late arrivals:** Arrive on time and be ready to begin by 10:00am (or let the instructor know if you must be late).

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes and to have completed all reading and listening assignments (as indicated on the class schedule) before class. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on any missed lectures.