

# Music 322: Conducting II

## Conrad Grebel University College/University of Waterloo

### Winter 2023

**Instructor: Dr. Mark Vuorinen**

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**Class Schedule and Location:** Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:50, Room CGUC 1302

**Course Description:** A continuation of MUS 222, Conducting I. MUS 322: Conducting II is designed for students interested in developing the necessary skills for leading choral rehearsals and performances.

#### Basic Learning Objectives:

1. The refinement and development of an expressive gestural language and conducting technique.
2. Development and refinement of musicianship and listening skills in the context of conducting.
3. Development of the skills and techniques for score study.
4. Continued development of rehearsal strategies and techniques and approaches for 'teaching the score'.

#### Learning Outcomes:

1. Conduct 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 patterns and their subdivisions with ease and confidence.
2. Demonstrate control of: preparations and cut-offs, cueing, fermatas, dynamics, articulations, tempo changes, complex and irregular meters, phrasing, and expressive gestures.
3. Demonstrate score study skills, involving ear training, analysis, research, style interpretation, score reading, and score study by conducting and rehearsing effectively.
4. Demonstrate a gestural vocabulary that is clear and makes a musical connection with the ensemble.
5. Conduct efficient and well-planned rehearsals, diagnosing musical problems and generating appropriate solutions.

#### Required Materials:

- White Mollard Baton (or other); available at area music stores
- Phone or Tablet for filming conducting sessions
- Repertoire package (provided)
- Readings as assigned (in library or online)

## Assessments:

Practical Evaluations	Weighting	Date
<p><b>Student evaluation is, in part, based on active participation in course activities:</b></p> <p><b>Weekly and ongoing preparation of course repertoire; preparation for, and participation in, conducting labs, exercises, score analysis, rehearsal plans and conducting sessions with self, peer and faculty assessments.</b></p> <p><b>Attendance: 2% deducted for each unexcused absence.</b></p>	20%	ONGOING
<b>Hearing and Skills Assessments: error detection, McElheran, Hindemith, dictation exercises.</b>	15%	Jan. 26, Feb. 9, March 16.
<b>Midterm conducting exam</b>	10%	Thursday March 2, in class
<b>Final conducting exam</b>	20%	Tuesday April 4, Thursday April 6 (if needed)

Written Assignments	Weighting	Date
<p><b>Score Analysis: Complete a thorough harmonic and structural analysis of a score of your choice (approved by MV), and submit a detailed 5-rehearsal plan for bringing the piece to performance with a university ensemble, including 2 vocal warmups designed to facilitate learning of the score.</b></p>	10%	Thursday March 5th
<b>Conducting Lab Reflections (see below for description)</b>	10%	Jan 24 Feb 7, 28, March 14 April 10
<b>Rehearsal Observation:</b>	15%	Friday March 17

**Attendance:** In-class participation is essential for successful completion of this course. You are granted 2 class absences without penalty. Each absence beyond 2 will carry a 2% penalty from your final grade (exceptions will require written documentation, or Verification of Illness).

**Conducting Lab:** Students will prepare, learn and conduct assigned repertoire. Each lab focusses on a particular conducting skill, gesture or genre (listening & responding, recitative, mixed/odd-metres, subdivisions, polyphony). The classes preceding the lab will be used to develop the skill. Lab dates are as follows: January 19, Feb 2, 16, March 9

**Conducting Lab Reflection:** Students will write personal journal entries with reflections of their own preparation, work and video analysis relating to the five conducting labs. Topics may include, but are not limited to: analysis of video-taped conducting sessions, peer reviews, conducting strategies and challenges. A minimum of five (5) entries, are to be made in the course of the semester (300 words each), with due dates as follows (first Tuesday after the Lab, and following the final conducting evaluation): January 24, Feb 7, Feb 28, March 14, April 10.

**Rehearsal Observation:** Students will attend a rehearsal of a musical ensemble (vocal or instrumental) within or outside of the Department of Music (it must be an ensemble in which the student does not normally participate as a musician or conductor). It will be the student's responsibility to contact the conductor or ensemble to ask permission to observe. Write a review of the rehearsal experience with rehearsal pedagogy and techniques in mind. Maximum length: 3 pages, double-spaced. Due on Learn on Friday March 17.

**Final project: Score analysis, score preparation and rehearsal plan:**

Students will, in consultation with the instructor, choose a piece of music, to be taught and performed by the class.

1. Prepare a marked score and written analysis using methods taught in class.
2. Develop a rehearsal plan for the work to be implemented over five 20-minute rehearsals.
3. Include in your rehearsal plan 2 vocal warm-ups/exercises designed to aid in the learning of the piece.
4. This piece will become the conducting assignment for the final exam.

Due: on Friday March 3, on LEARN. Upload a scan of the marked score & the written analysis/rehearsal plans to separate individual Dropboxes on LEARN.

**Error Detection/Playing or singing of repertoire:**

1. Hindemith exercises, see handout (Jan 26)
2. Error detection (Feb 9)
3. 2-part chorale dictation (March 16)

**Mid-term and Final Exams:** Each student will have a conducting session in which to rehearse/perform an excerpt from the assigned repertoire. Evaluation will be, in part, based on use of appropriate rehearsal techniques, non-verbal communication and the student's ability to react to the ensemble. Marked scores will be handed in at the end of the exam session to form part of the total evaluation.

## Course, Department and University Policies:

*Purpose: for students to understand the University Policies that pertain to them being a student in the course.*

**Academic integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check the [Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information.]

**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, Section 4](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

**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. [Check the [Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information.] 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 offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**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](#).

**Note for students with disabilities:** [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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignment.

June 15, 2009 (updated March 2018)

## 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 110 will move online with a regular meeting time on Zoom and other asynchronous activities.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/university-waterloo-continuity-education-plan>

**If you are ill:** See the university's [Accommodations for Illness and Extenuating Circumstances](#) page for details on how and when to self-declare and submit Verification of Illness.

Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. Do not download, copy, or share any course or student materials or videos without the explicit permission of the instructor.

For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

### Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. We encourage you to seek out mental health supports when they are needed. Please reach out to [Campus Wellness and Counselling Services](#).

We understand that these circumstances can be troubling, and you may need to speak with someone for emotional support. [Good2Talk](#) is a post-secondary student helpline based in Ontario, Canada that is available to all students.

### Territorial Acknowledgement

"We acknowledge that we live and work on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River."