

**UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
CHORAL STUDIES**

MVP 181 A: Choral Conducting I: Course Syllabus Fall 2004

INSTRUCTOR: David Friddle
SITE: Foster 207
MEETING TIME: M/W: 8:00 – 8:50 a.m. Section A
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
OFFICE: Graduate TA Office
E-MAIL: david_friddle@bellsouth.net
PHONE: 786.417.3186
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This sequence of courses provides students with practical procedures and materials for beginning through advanced levels. Students who enroll in this four-semester course will demonstrate essential conducting techniques, knowledge of literature for the Middle School and Senior High School, and the ability to analyze and synthesize music scores for conception, interpretations, rehearsal, and performance. **Your success is important. We must work together to make it happen.**

OBJECTIVES: At the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Develop and refine essential competencies while conducting:
 - a. preparatory beat, downbeat, and rebounds
 - b. beat patterns and preparations in tempo, dynamic, and style
 - c. preparation and releases for all counts
 - d. mixed meters
 - e. musical styles: legato, marcato, and staccato
 - f. fermatas
 - g. cues
 - h. left hand facility
 - i. asymmetrical and changing meters
 - j. tempo changes
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the following:
 - a. dynamics
 - b. tempo terms
 - c. tempo fluctuations
3. Demonstrate ability to analyze and synthesize the score for conception, interpretation, rehearsal, and performance.
4. Demonstrate a working knowledge of musical terminology.

TEXT: - *Basic Techniques of Conducting* by Kenneth Phillips
Oxford University Press
- Additional Choral compositions as assigned

BRING YOUR TEXT AND MUSIC TO CLASS EACH DAY

**UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES (University Bulletin, Page 33,
Faculty Senate Action # 79012)**

Regular and punctual class attendance is vital for all students. Each instructor will announce during the first meeting of a class the penalties for non-attendance and for missed quizzes and examinations, since these vary. Any student may be dropped from a course by the instructor or receive a lowered grade for unauthorized absences which are in excess of those permitted without penalty by the instructor. Unless a student is absent for University-approved reasons, the instructor determines whether or not an absence is for an acceptable reason. Student should contact the instructor about

making up missed work. It is the student's responsibility to know the instructor's policies regarding examinations, penalties for absences, and late or missed work.

Students participating in choral organizations who are music scholarship recipients may have their scholarships affected in the event that the grade is lowered due to excessive absences/tardies.

HOLIDAYS

The University of Miami, although a secular institution, has always sought to acknowledge and accommodate those employees and students who wish to observe religious holidays. It seeks to reflect its awareness and sensitivity to religious holidays whenever possible when scheduling University activities. Each student shall, upon notifying his/her instructor in advance, be excused from class to observe a religious holiday of his/her faith.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Grading: | Quiz | 40 points | 40 |
| | Video-taping (6) | 30 points each | 180 |
| | Self-Evaluations (6) | 10 points each | 60 |
| | Mid-Term Exam – (Conducting) | 60 points | 60 |
| | Mid-Term Exam – (Terms Exam) | 100 points | 100 |
| | Final Conducting Exam (2) | 50 points each | 100 |
| | Final Terminology Exam | 100 points each | 100 |
| | Attendance | 2 points each | 60 |
| | | Total Possible Points: | 700 |
| | 93-100% = A | | 73-76% = C |
| | 90-92% = A- | | 70-72% = C- |
| | 87-89% = B+ | | 67-69% = D+ |
| | 83-86% = B | | 63-66% = D |
| | 80-82% = B- | | 60-62% = D- |
| | 77-79% = C+ | | 00-59% = F |

Please note: Attendance *does* affect your grade. When you are not conducting, you will be acting as part of the choir (or perhaps playing the piano) for the person who is. If you are absent it affects the conductor's ability to both work with the class/ensemble and evaluate his or her own performance. If you are absent for a videotaping session and the absence is unexcused, you will not be allowed to make up the missed session.

Just as absences will negatively affect the quality of each student's conducting experience, so too will lack of participation and preparation from the singers (other class members). There is no reason for members of the class not to have acquainted themselves with the music to be sung in class - the calendar is very clear. If the instructor observes poor participation or preparation on the part of a class member, that student will be notified that improvement is necessary. If immediate improvement is not observed, that student's grade will be lowered at least one letter.

Credit for self-evaluation forms completed later than the class session following the videotaping session are reduced by 50%; afterwards no credit will be given

BLACKBOARD

This class will utilize UM's blackboard system. Classes will videotaped digitally; your individual conducting segments will then be uploaded to Blackboard. You will complete self-evaluation forms ONLINE; after your self-evaluation form has been automatically emailed to your instructor, s/he will reply with his/her comments. All of your grades will be available to you on Blackboard. Other class materials may be posted on Blackboard; it is your responsibility to check Blackboard regularly for class updates, music scores, conducting segments and self-evaluation forms and instructor comments.

You do NOT need a VHS tape for this class.

Help will be available for students who are unfamiliar with the Blackboard system.

COURSE OUTLINE MVP181A—Fall 2004

| | | Attendance | Points |
|-----------|---|------------|--------------|
| Aug 30 | Posture and Position – Preparatory Gesture (KP – Lesson 2) | 2 | |
| W Sept 1 | Music in Common Time; Internal & Final Releases (KP – Lesson 3) | 2 | |
| M Sept 6 | Labor Day | | |
| W Sept 8 | Review & Italian Terminology (KP – Lesson 4) | 2 | |
| M Sept 13 | Video Taping #1— Chester and/or Austrian Hymn | 2 | 30 |
| W Sept 15 | Articulations (KP – Lesson 4) Class Quiz—Italian Terminology | 2 | 40+10 |
| M Sept 20 | The Three Pattern, The Two Pattern, Daily Dozen (KP – Lesson 6) | 2 | |
| W Sept 22 | Video Taping #2— My country 'tis of thee and Ode to Joy | 2 | 30 |
| M Sept 27 | One, Two, Three, Four Pattern (KP – Lesson 10) | 2 | 10 |
| W Sept 29 | Release on beat two; entrance on pickup | | |
| M Oct 4 | Mid-Term Conducting: Sing we and chant it; Chorale St. Antonii; and/or Erlaube mir | 2 | 60 |
| W Oct 6 | Mid-Term Italian Musical Terms Examination | 2 | 100 |
| M Oct 11 | Left Hand Function – The Circle Drill (KP – Lesson 16) | 2 | |
| W Oct 13 | Left Hand Sustaining Gestures (KP – Lesson 17) | 2 | |
| M Oct 18 | Subdivisions (KP – Lesson 20) | 2 | |
| W Oct 20 | Video Taping #5— Finlandia and/or O beautiful for spacious skies | 2 | 30 |
| M Oct 25 | Cues (KP – Lesson 20) | 2 | 10 |
| W Oct 27 | Fermatas & Entrances (KP – Lesson 24) | 2 | |
| M Nov 1 | Video Taping #6— Surely he hath borne our griefs and/or Air of Bach | 2 | 30 |
| W Nov 3 | Compound Notes: Six, Nine, Twelve | 2 | 10 |
| M Nov 8 | Compound Notes: Six, Nine, Twelve (cont.) | 2 | |
| W Nov 10 | Video Taping #7 – Six, Nine, Twelve— Silent night and/or Morning has broken | 2 | 30 |
| M Nov 15 | Conducting synthesis #1 (Lesson 28) | 2 | 10 |
| W Nov 17 | Conducting synthesis #2 (Lesson 29) | 2 | |
| M Nov 22 | Conducting synthesis #1 + 2 (Lesson 28–29) | 2 | |
| W Nov 24 | NO CLASS—HAPPY THANKSGIVING! | | |
| M Nov 29 | Video Taping #8— The Handsome Butcher | 2 | 30 |
| W Dec 1 | Review for final | 2 | 10 |
| M Dec 3 | Review for final | 2 | |
| W Dec 15 | Final Exam (8:00 – 10:30 a.m.) | 8 | |
| | Terminology Exam | | 100 |
| | Video Taping | | 100 |
| | REQUIRED: Sing we and chant it and/or The Handsome Butcher | | |
| | STUDENT CHOICE: Any two selections from prior conducting exercises | | |
| | SUB-TOTAL | 60 | 640 |
| | TOTAL: 700 | | |
| | A+ = 679–700 | | C = 511–538 |
| | A = 651–678 | | C– = 490–510 |
| | B+ = 630–650 | | D+ = 469–489 |
| | B = 609–629 | | D = 441–468 |
| | B– = 560–608 | | D– = 420–440 |
| | C+ = 539–559 | | F = ≤420 |