



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

MUS 417: Conducting and Rehearsal Techniques

CRN 20821; Section 1

Semester Taught: Spring 2019

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: none

Course Time (if applicable): 10:00-10:50 MW

Building and Room Number (if applicable): FA M105

Professor: Dr. Kelly Hudson

Office Location: Fine Arts M113

Office Hours: TBA

Email: khudson@concord.edu

Phone: 384-5301

Course Description/Rationale: A course designed to build skills and develop musicianship in instrumental and choral conducting, as well as effective rehearsal strategies for ensembles.

Course Management System: N/A

Hardware/Software Needed: N/A

Required Materials: Required: • Text: Labuta, Joseph A. & Matthews, Wendy K. *Basic Conducting Techniques*, 7th ed. (Routledge Pub's, 2018)
ISBN: 978-1-138-65698-7

• Conducting baton

Suggested: Metronome

Concord University Educational Goal(s): Skills #1 – Effective inter-communication skills and literacy adapted as needed for the demands of various kinds of discourse: listening and speaking, reading and writing, numeracy, graphic communication, non-verbal communication, media and technological literacy; Knowledge #6 – An awareness of the aesthetic principles, methods, materials, and media employed in artistic performance and the creation of works of art and literature; Attitude #5 – Appreciation for the creative process and for the rich diversity of artistic achievement.

Music Dept. Learning Outcomes: # 5 – Understanding of basic conducting techniques, critical listening skills, and rehearsal techniques. (Skills #2); #7 – Knowledge of music instructional strategies for different class settings, classroom management techniques, and state/national learning standards. (Knowledge #6)

Course Requirements / Grading Policy:

Course Requirements:

Students will conduct each other and/or recordings on a regular basis, and daily assignments such as conducting exercises, readings, and/or music analysis will be given. There will be written and/or skills quizzes on the assigned material.

Students are required to go to five ensemble rehearsals and complete a rehearsal observation form.

A list of conducting terms will be handed out early in the semester. A quiz on these terms will take place mid-semester.

Project: Each student will hand in a movement or piece(s) of music equal to 8 to 10 minutes of music (vocal or instrumental). The score should be marked for conducting, including cues and other elements necessary for the conductor. Accompanying the piece should be a brief history of the piece, the composer, the text (if applicable), and any rehearsal or performance problems foreseen by the conductor. Also address the ideal group for that particular piece.

Students will conduct the Collegiate Singers on a piece (chosen by the instructor) for the Spring Concert, 4/29/19.

Concepts and skills covered (not necessarily in this order):

- posture/baton hold
- beat patterns
- right/left hand independence
- preparatory beats
- releases
- tempo/meter changes
- dynamics
- articulation
- cueing
- fermatas
- subdivision
- error detection
- terminology
- score prep and marking
- rehearsal techniques
- instrument transposition
- issues of choral/band/orchestral conducting

Grading policy:

- 35% - Weekly assignments and quizzes (quizzes are worth two assignments)
- 20% - Final project
- 15% - Conducting and preparation of Collegiate Singers
- 15% - Rehearsal observations
- 10% - Terms quiz
- 5% - Attendance

Accessibility/Accommodations:

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Concord University Honor Code

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

Class Attendance Policy

Participation and observation are key elements to learning conducting skills. You can learn a great deal from watching your colleagues, while at the same time helping them develop their own skills. Your highest possible course grade will be equal to the percentage of classes you attended during the semester. For example, if there are 100 class periods, and you attend 87 of them, your highest possible grade for the class is 87%.

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Emergency Alert System

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

Emergency Information

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:
<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

Inclement Weather Policy

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

**Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

Student Conduct

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

Sexual Harassment & Assault

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or titleix@concord.edu. Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

Technology Services

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail cuhelpdesk@concord.edu.

Syllabus Disclaimer

"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."