

Techniques of Conducting
Music 6518
Syllabus

Summer 2012

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
10:00 AM to 11:45 AM
Band Hall

Instructor

Dr. Craig S. Young
Band Hall
925-3439 (Office)
cyoung@mc.edu

Required Materials

Conducting Technique for Beginners and Professionals
by Brock McElheran (Revised Edition)

Casals and the Art of Interpretation
by David Blum

Conducting Baton
4 Gigabyte SD Card and the means to play it (on computer or Player)
Metronome (not needed *in* class)

Purpose

To refine the student's established gestural language as well as to improve other non-gestural aspects of conducting

Course Activities (See Page 4 for dates)

Daily baton practice (this course requires practice!)
Readings and assignments (see page 4)
Daily Class Conducting
Class demonstrations and discussions
Two Individual Projects
Written Test

Attendance

Attendance is essential for all class meetings. Dr. Young should be notified of any necessary absences. The final grade will be reduced for any excessive absences. Missing 3 or more classes will result in a grade of an "F".

Mississippi Wind Symphony Rehearsals

Each student will attend two (2) rehearsals and the concert of the Mississippi Wind Symphony. Students may choose between the rehearsals on June 5th, 7th, or 10th in the MC Band Hall from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. The concert will be on June 12th at 7:30 PM at Hinds Community College.

Evaluation Criteria

Class attendance/Preparation	10%
Conducting Test (Bernstein "Profanation")	15%
Presentations (15% each)	30%
Written Exam	20%
Final Conducting Exam	25%

Grades

Grades will be based on the scale listed below. Pluses and minuses, while used in tests and presentations, will be dropped when determining the final grade.

95-100% = A (100)	80-83% = B- (82)	67-69% = D+ (68)
90-94 = A- (92)	77-79% = C+ (78)	64-66% = D (65)
87-89 = B+ (88)	74-76% = C (75)	60-63% = D- (62)
84-86% = B (85)	70-73% = C- (72)	0-59% = F

Presentation #1

Students will design a presentation around the conducting subject of their choice. The presentation must include a written handout (bring enough copies for everyone) and should be approximately 15 minutes in length. The written portion does not need to be in prose and should be much more concise than the oral presentation.

Presentation #2

Students will choose an important orchestral (with or without chorus) or wind band composition for study and analysis. Time limit for the composition should be 4-6 minutes. One movement of a larger work is acceptable. There must be multiple recordings available. A short history of the composer and composition (Steps 1 and 2) and the macro analysis (Step 3) of the work will be presented to the class in both written and oral form. The written portion does not need to be done in prose and should be much more concise than the oral presentation.

Conducting Examinations

Students will conduct: 1) An excerpt from Bernstein's "Profanation" from the *Symphony No. 1*, and; 2) the composition that is chosen for the second presentation (above). The examination will consist of two times through the composition, once in silence and once along with a recording chosen by the student.

Written Examination

There will be a written final examination. This written final will be testing all materials from the entire semester.

Academic Integrity

As stated in the 2011-2012 Mississippi College Undergraduate Bulletin, "Mississippi College students are expected to be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records, or information will be regarded as a serious offense subject to severe penalty, including, but not limited to, loss of credit and possible dismissal." All work must be original and your own, with all sources cited in the appropriate format. Wikipedia or other web sites not designed by recognized experts in the field are not acceptable sources.

Graduate students should read the *Graduate Orientation Manual* in its entirety. This is an important part of the orientation for graduate students. Please get your hard copy from your department or from the Graduate Office in Nelson 202. You may also view the manual on the web at this address:

<http://www/mc.edu/publications/graduate/orientation.html>.