

MUSIC 351: CHORAL CONDUCTING Jason A. Anderson, *instructor*
Summer Quarter, B Term Office: Music 30, *no ADA-compliant access*
MTWTh, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Hours: *By appointment only*
Music 114 musikus@u.washington.edu
(206) 543-8412

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will study and practice basic choral conducting patterns, score preparation skills, choral/vocal techniques, music terminology, use of the left hand, and choral ensemble discipline in a supportive, encouraging, and challenging learning environment where artistic expression, creativity, and musical development are nurtured, hopefully, to their full potential.

REQUIRED TEXT & MATERIALS

1. Phillips, Kenneth H. *Basic Techniques of Conducting*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.
2. Mozart, W. A. *Ave verum corpus*. Any standard SATB/organ edition.
3. 1 ½” 3-ring binder or spiral-bound notebook
4. At least one, preferably two, mini DVD+RW
5. Digital, battery-powered metronome

RECOMMENDED TEXT

6. Phillips, Kenneth H. *Directing the Choral Music Program*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

EVALUATION

300 points *Videorecording and evaluations*

There are four videorecording sessions, each worth 60 points; in addition, after each videorecording session, you must complete a self-evaluation, each worth 15 points.

IMPORTANT

If you are absent for any of these sessions, you cannot make them up and will forfeit all 75 points per session missed.

150 points *Quizzes*

There are five quizzes, each worth 30 points. All quizzes will be completed and collected in class. None will be take-home. Quizzes will cover such topics as terminology and definitions, breathing, vocal development, basic music history, and other co-related topics. *Quizzes are cumulative and may include material previously covered.*

500 points *Final exam*

The final exam constitutes the bulk of the final grade. The course will assist you in preparation for this exam. Each student will conduct five pieces (worth 100 points each), which must show correct posture, prepared entrances, appropriate releases, correct beat patterns, incorporation of dynamics, and confidence.

50 points *Notebook & journal*

You are expected to keep an organized notebook. It should utilize dividers of some kind and include the course syllabus, notes on readings, in-class notes, journal entries, and other items you deem appropriate. You will hand in the notebook, with journal entries, at the end of the term.

POINT CONVERSION TO THE UW GRADING SCALE

3.9-4.0	970-1000 points
3.5-3.8	900-969
3.4-3.2	867-899
3.1-2.9	834-866
2.8-2.5	800-833
2.4-2.2	767-799
2.1-1.9	734-766
1.8-1.5	700-733
1.4-1.2	667-699
1.1-0.9	634-666
0.8-0.7	600-633

GENERAL CLASSROOM COURTESIES & POLICIES

- Turn off all mobile phones and pagers before entering the classroom.
- Food and drink are prohibited in Music 114; bottled water is acceptable.
- Complete and hand in assignments by the date specified. Handing assignments in late will result in partial loss of credit.
- Notify the instructor (email preferred, telephone is confidential) of any absences within 24 hours, before or after.
- Be in class on time!
- Assignments should demonstrate command of the English language and utilize proper spelling and grammar.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

July 20

Guest lecturer: Phil Tschopp, *conductor*
Romantic listening: Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms
Conducting, Lsn. 16: *Functions of the left hand*, p. 119-133
Guided practice, p. 121, 125, and 126

Homework: *Read, write*

Read Lessons 16 & 17, p. 119-146. Complete assignments 1-5 on p. 133 and assignments 1-2 on p. 143.

July 24

More Romantic listening: Bruckner, Verdi, Fauré
Conducting, Lsn. 17: *Left hand sustaining gestures*, p. 135-146
Guided practice, p. 129, 133, 135, and 137

Homework: *Read, write*

Read Lesson 18, p. 147-150. Complete assignment 3 on p. 143 and assignments 1-5 on p. 150.

July 25

More Romantic listening: Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov
Conducting, Lsn. 18: *Left hand strengthening techniques*, p. 147-150
Guided practice, p. 142, 143, 147

Homework: *Read, memorize*

Read Lesson 19, p. 151-152 in preparation for videorecording 5 on Wednesday.

Read Phillips: *Rehearsing the Choir*, p. 296-309 and complete the study questions on p. 313 (1-15) in preparation for a discussion in class on Wednesday.

July 26

Conducting, Lsn. 19: *Videorecording No. 5*, p. 151-152
Quiz 6 on repeat markings and left hand functions
Phillips: *Rehearsing the Choir*, p. 296-309

Homework: *Read, write*

Read Phillips: *Rehearsing the Choir*, p. 309-313 and complete the study questions on p. 313 (16-20) in preparation for a discussion in class on Thursday.

Complete the evaluation form on p. 153-154. You will hand this in on Thursday.

July 27

Phillips: *Rehearsing the Choir*, p. 309-313

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 20, p. 155-164 and complete assignments 1-5, p. 166.

Week 2

July 31

Guest instructor: Chris Stagg, *music educator*
20th Century listening: Vaughan Williams, Christiansen
Conducting, Lsn. 20: *Subdivision, cues*, p. 155-164
Guided practice, p. 155 and 162

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 20, p. 165-166 and Lesson 21, p. 167-169; complete assignments 1-4, p. 169.

August 1

Guest instructor: Chris Stagg, *music educator*
More 20th Century listening: Bernstein, Copland, Stravinsky
Conducting, Lsn. 20: *Alto and tenor clefs*, p. 165-166
Conducting, Lsn. 21: *Composer's intent*, p. 167-169
Guided practice, p. 168-169

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 22, p. 170-172 and complete assignments 1-3, p. 174.

August 2

Guest instructor: Chris Stagg, *music educator*
More 20th Century listening: Howells, Britten, Finzi
Conducting, Lsn. 22: *Entrances on incomplete beats*, p. 170-172
Guided practice, p. 172

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 22, p. 173-174 and complete assignment 4, p. 174.

Read Lesson 23, p. 175-176 in preparation for videorecording 6 on Wednesday.

August 3

Guest instructor: Chris Stagg, *music educator*
Conducting, Lsn. 22: *Instrumental transpositions*, p. 173-174
Conducting, Lsn. 23: *Videorecording No. 6*, p. 175-176
Guided practice, p. 174

Homework: *Evaluate, read*

Complete the evaluation form on p. 177-178. You will hand this in on Thursday.

Read Lesson 24, p. 179-186 and complete assignment 1 on p. 192.

August 4

Conducting, Lsn. 24: *Fermatas, compound meters (6 only)*, p. 179-186
Guided practice, p. 181, 184-185
Observe Summer Chorale rehearsal, 7:00-7:45 p.m.

Homework: *Read, write*

Read Lesson 24, p. 187-192 and complete assignments 2-3, p. 192.

Week 3

August 7

Conducting, Lsn. 24: *Compound meters, transpositions*, p. 187-192
Quiz 7 on transpositions and compound meters
Guided practice, p. 188

Homework: *Read, write*

Read Lesson 25, p. 193-196 and complete assignments

August 8

Conducting, Lsn. 25: *Assymmetric and changing meters*, p. 193-196
Guided practice, p. 196
Observe Summer Chorale rehearsal, 7:00-7:45 p.m.

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 26, p. 197-198 in preparation for videorecording 6 on Wednesday.

Read Phillips: *Teaching Sight-Singing Skills*, p. 278-295 and complete the study questions on p. 293-294 (Nos. 1, 3, 5, 8-20).

August 9

Conducting, Lsn. 26: *Videorecording No. 7*, p. 197-198
Phillips: *Teaching Sight-Singing Skills*, p. 278-295

Homework: *Evaluate, read*

Complete the evaluation form on p. 197-198. You will hand this in on Thursday.

Read Lesson 27, p. 201-214 and complete assignments 1-2, p. 214.

August 10

Conducting, Lsn. 27: *Accents, tempo alterations, cues*, p. 201-214
Quiz 8 on instrumental transpositions and rehearsal strategies
Guided practice, p. 201, 202, and 204

Homework: *Read, practice*

Read Lesson 28, p. 215-217 and complete assignments 1-2, p. 217.

Week 4

August 14

Conducting, Lsn. 27, *continued*
Conducting, Lsn. 28: *Conducting synthesis 1*, p. 215-217
Guided practice, p. 205, 215, and 217
Introduction to Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*

Homework: *Prepare, evaluate*

Read Lesson 29-30, p. 218-228; complete assignments 1-4, p. 225 in preparation for videorecording 8 on Tuesday.

August 15

Conducting, Lsn. 29: *Conducting synthesis 2*, p. 218-226
Conducting, Lsn. 30: *Videorecording No. 8*, p. 227-228
More on Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*

Homework: *Evaluate, practice, study*

Complete the evaluation form on p. 229-230. You will hand this in on Wednesday.

Practice Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*.

Study your notes for a cumulative quiz on all topics covered in both A and B terms.

August 16

Final preparation: Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*
Quiz 9 (cumulative)

Homework: *Practice, study*

Practice Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*.

Study your notes for another cumulative quiz on all topics covered in both A and B terms.

August 17

B Term Ends
Conducting Final: Mozart's *Ave verum corpus*
Quiz 10 (cumulative)

Hand in notebooks and journals.