

BMU301 Conducting

Level: 3

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JAN

Synopsis:

Learn the fundamental cognitive, kinaesthetic and aesthetic conducting skills necessary to lead a band, choir, orchestra, or any other music ensemble. Topics include conducting patterns and baton technique, score analysis and preparation, rehearsal techniques, and basic nomenclature. Students are strongly advised to revise and strengthen their sight-reading of music scores before embarking on this course. They also need to be prepared to come back for the practical assessment which is held outside of the 6 week sessions.

Topics:

- Introduction: Course overview; history of conducting; roles, qualities, skills required of a conductor; Technique: posture; magnetism; vertical and horizontal planes; the preparatory beat (upbeat), the ictus, the rebound, the release (“cut-off”); impulse of will
- Basic Baton Techniques: Holding a baton, conducting without a baton; beat patterns: conducting in four, two, three, six, one; independence of left and right hands; showing dynamics / phrasing with the LH
- Conducting dynamics and phrases: Expansion / contraction of beat patterns for dynamics / phrasal shaping; conducting articulations
- Expressive Conducting: Use of left hand; facial expression
- Advanced Techniques: Gesture of syncopation; conducting asymmetrical meters; conducting hypermeter, handling fermatas
- Score Study and Rehearsal Techniques

Textbooks:

By Joseph A. Labuta, Wendy K. Matthews: Basic Conducting Techniques (eText) 7th Edition Taylor & Francis

ISBN-13: 9781317220411-AA

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Learning Outcome:

- Prepare rehearsal strategies for leading a music performance group.
- Analyze basic choral and instrumental music scores.
- Apply appropriate conducting gestures for the music performance.
- Demonstrate clear conducting patterns in multiple meters.
- Conduct a choir with and without a baton.
- Execute gestures for music-specific nomenclature.

Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
PRE-COURSE QUIZ	5
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	45
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
ECA	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**