

Course Syllabus

Music 480 Choral Conducting 3 units

Professors William Belan and Donald Brinegar

Attendance is mandatory at all class sessions. In case of emergency, you may call Dr. Belan's office and leave a message 323-343-4067.

Course Content

Practice and exploration of gestural communication as applied to choral music. The class

will examine traditional practices in conducting as well as:

- Kinesthetics
- Ictus and Rebound
- Rhythmic Weight
- Posture
- Hand Positions
- Audiation Techniques
- Conducting Patterns

Each student will prepare assigned choral scores for presentation in the class.

Preparation of the score for class presentation will include:

- Short bio of composer and poet (including birth and death dates)
- Score analysis (form, significant harmonic motions, motivic material of the melody and the rhythm, etc)
- Text translation into English
- Poetic or metaphoric interpretation of the text
- Gestural issues

A one-page synopsis of the analysis will be provided for each class member. A style format is attached (Microsoft Word document). *Please hole-punch (three) each copy before turning in to Don Brinegar or email to dlbrinegar@mac.com*

DVDS will be made of each conducting presentation. Following each presentation, the graduate will view the session and return a written evaluation of the videotape. A style format is attached (Microsoft Word document).

Grading

Attendance and class participation (discussion) 24 points

Class presentations (4) 40 points

Score Analysis (4) 20 points

Videotape Evaluation (4) 16 points

A = 100-90 points; B = 89-80; C = 79-70 points

DVD Review

Critique your conducting and suggest ways in which can improve your gestural communication. Due each Monday at 12:55 in the choral room).

Posture

Head -

Shoulders -

Torso -

Hips -

Hands -

Feet -

Facial expression

Eyes -

Mouth -

Effectiveness of patterns

Ictus -

Rebound -

Effectiveness of Verbal Communication

Most Positive Ability

Most in Need of Improvement

Presented by _____

Analytical Synopsis of _____

Composer _____ (b. d.)

Bio

Poet _____ (b. d.)

Bio

Translation of text

Significant Musical Features