MUS 583
Seminar: Choral Conducting
Monday/Wednesday - 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Room: MUS 149

Instructors: Donald Brinegar
Email: dlbrinegar@mac.com
Office: MUS 122
Voice: (343) 323-4068

Sébastien Vallée
Email: sebastien.vallee@calstatela.edu
Office hours: by appointment

Course Description
Study of literature, pedagogical and analytical procedures, and rehearsal techniques applicable to choral conducting.

Course Goals and Student Learning objectives
The class will examine practices and procedures in the development of a successful teaching style for the development of a choral ensemble and comprehensive choral program. Topics to include:

- Historical Styles and Practices
- Analytical Techniques
- Intonation Practices
- Temporal Aesthetics
- Techniques in Group Vocalization
- Techniques in Motivating and Creating
- Gestalt Models and Transactional Processes
- Diction and International Phonetic Alphabet
- Rehearsal Techniques
Course Content Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze a choral score using techniques learned in class
- Organize and run a successful choral rehearsal
- Warm-up the choir in preparation for rehearsal
- Use intonation practices to maintain intonation in rehearsal
- Transliterate texts in IPA and teach diction to a choral ensemble
- Find and apply for choral conducting jobs
- Create a topic for presentation at a major conference of a choral society

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and class participation (discussion)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic presentations</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readings (Tests and Mini-papers)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Suggested Texts/Readings

Harmonic Experience, W.A. Mathieu

The Structure of Singing: System and Art of Vocal Technique, Richard Miller

Choral Repertoire, Dennis Shrock (Oxford University Press)

University Policies

Student Handbook

Information on student rights and responsibilities, academic honesty, standards of conduct, etc., can be found in Schedule of Classes (http://www.calstatela.edu/classschedule/) under Policies and Procedures.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Reasonable accommodation will be provided to any student who is registered with the Office of Students with Disabilities and requests needed accommodation.

MUS 583 – Seminar: Conducting
MUS 583 – Seminar: Choral Conducting

Schedule

Week 1

Monday

- Introduction – Choral Culture and Choral Community
- Vocal Warm-ups
- Vocal Function Exercises
- Introduction to Vocal Pedagogy
- Fibonacci - Aesthetics of Time Organization

Wednesday

- Conductor’s Role
- Audiation
- Diction and IPA

Week 2

Monday

- Singing Overtones
- Vowel Formants and Singer’s Formants
- Voice Identification
- Voice Placement in the Choir

Wednesday

- Monday Integral Consciousness (Nesting and Hierarchies) – Dr. Belan
- Practical Applications of Hierarchies to Vocal Pedagogy

Week 3

Monday

- Introduction of the Harmonic Lattice
- Use of the Harmonic Lattice in Score Analysis
- Chironomy, Chant and Semiology – Dr. Belan

Wednesday

- Leadership and Choral Ensembles
- Rehearsal Technique and Video Review
Week 4

- Authenticity and Music
- Rehearsal Technique and Video Review 2

Wednesday

- Making Analysis/Research Meaningful
- Diction and IPA 2
- Finding and Applying for Choral Conducting Jobs

Week 5

Festival week

Week 6

Monday

- Literature Presentation (2nd year students): Renaissance/Baroque

Wednesday

- Literature Presentation (2nd year students): Classical/Romantic/20th century

Week 7

Monday

- MUS 500/583 Seminar Presentations (1st year students)

Wednesday

- MUS 500/583 Seminar Presentations (1st year students)