Three-Summer Master of Music in Choral Conducting

MUS 5830
Seminar: Choral Conducting
Monday/Wednesday - 12:30 pm - 3:10 pm
Room: MUS 149

Instructors:      Prof. Donald Brinegar      Dr. William Belan
Email:            dlbrinegar@mac.com          wbelan@exchange.calstatela.edu
Office:           Patio                       MUS 122
Voice:            (909) 565-2971              (626) 484-5719
Office hours:     by appointment             by appointment

Course Description
The study of music 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
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

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance and class participation (discussion)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic presentations (Presentation and Handout)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Readings (Ability to answer questions related to assigned readings)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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A = 100-90 points; B = 89-80; C = 79-70 points

Required 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)

*Pitch Perfect: A Theory and Practice of Choral Intonation*, Brinegar (manuscript will be sent to each of you)
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 5830 – Seminar: Choral Conducting

Schedule

Week 1       June 17 and 19

Monday

• Introduction – Choral Culture and Choral Community

• Vocal Warm-ups

• Vocal Function Exercises

• Introduction to Vocal Pedagogy

• Fibonacci - Aesthetics of Time Organization

Wednesday

• Chironomy, Chant and Semiology
MUS 5830  Monday

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

Wednesday

- Essentials to the Essence
- Nested Hierarchies
- Assignment of Seminar Topics

Week 3  July 1 and 3

Monday

- Harmonic Analysis
- Lattice Construction
- Listening with Discernment / Feeling the Numbers

Wednesday

Continuation of Score Analysis in Lattice Construction

Week 4  July 8 and 10

Monday

- Integral Consciousness (Nesting and Hierarchies)
- Use of the Harmonic Lattice in Score Analysis
- Practical Applications of Hierarchies to Vocal Pedagogy
- Nested Hierarchy of Rehearsal Pedagog

**Wednesday**

- Integral Consciousness (Nesting and Hierarchies)
- Use of the Harmonic Lattice in Score Analysis
- Practical Applications of Hierarchies to Vocal Pedagogy

### Week 5  July 15-20  Festival Week

July 15-20 “Bach & Beyond” Festival Director: Dr. Christopher Gravis Guest Artist: Ruben Valenzuela
Conductors: William Belan, Donald Brinegar, Christopher Gravis, and Ruben Valenzuela

Monday, July 15 9:30 Registration 10:00-12:00 Welcome and Choral Rehearsal—Belan/Brinegar 12:00-1:00 Hosted Lunch on Music Courtyard 1:00-3:00 Keynote Speech: Ruben Valenzuela (Title TBA) 3:30-5:00 Rehearsal—Gravis/Valenzuela 6:00-7:30 No-Host Reception Charlie’s Trio 47 West Main St
Alhambra, CA 91801

Tuesday, July 16 10:00-12:00 Rehearsal: Valenzuela/Gravis 1:00-2:00 Lecture: Valenzuela 2:30-5:00 Rehearsal: Belan/Brinegar

Wednesday, July 17 1:00-3:00 Rehearsal: Belan/Brinegar/Gravis/Valenzuela 3:30-5:30 Rehearsal: First and Second-Year

Thursday, July 18 10:00-12:00 Conducting Rounds (Guests are welcome to attend this masterclass) 1:00-3:00 Rehearsal: Belan/Brinegar/Gravis/Valenzuela 3:30-5:30 Rehearsal: Third-YEAR

Friday, July 19 2:30-5:30 Dress Rehearsal at Pasadena Community College

Saturday, July 20 6:00 Concert Warm-up 7:30 Concert Location: Pasadena City College, Department of Music William Belan, Donald Brinegar, Christopher Gravis, Ruben Valenzuela, conductors Festival Concludes with the Concert

### Week 6  July 22 and 24

Monday

- Questions, Comments, Suggestions, Epiphanies

**Wednesday**

- Special Topics

### Week 7  July 29 and 31
Monday

- MUS 500/583 Seminar Presentations

Wednesday

- MUS 500/583 Seminar Presentations

MUS 5830

Choral Seminar Presentation Evaluation

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<tr>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Presentation Topic</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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| Clarity of Topic | 0-20 | __________ |
| Speaking Clarity | 0-10 | __________ |
| Supporting Documents | 0-10 | __________ |
| Overall Understanding of the Topic | 0-10 | __________ |
| Total Score | __________ | A – 45 – 50 B – 40 – 45 C – 35 - 40 |