Applied Conducting
MUP 309/509
Stephen F. Austin State University
School of Music
Spring 2019

Instructor: Dr. Michael Murphy
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Class Location: M126A
Meeting Times: Various (Brittnee Simone - Monday 9:00-9:30 am) (Diana Luu - Thursday 3:30-4:00) (Taryn Surratt - TBA)
Office Hours: By appointment

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Conducting baton
- Metronome
- Full length mirror
- Colored pencils
- Video recording device

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course will guide the student in the exploration of pedagogical practices associated with choral conducting. Students will demonstrate:

1. A clear, efficient, and expressive conducting technique
2. An ability to sequence learning and plan for rehearsal
3. An ability to express musical ideas through gesture; an ability to respond in rehearsal to the choir’s performance; and an ability to deliver clear, concise verbal directions
4. An ability to choose appropriate non-verbal cues to shape and develop choral sound
5. Observation and self-observation techniques
6. A proficiency in conducting patterns and gestures (e.g. preparatory exercises, basic beat patterns, cueing and release gestures, fermatas, mixed meters, asymmetrical meters, gradual changes in tempo, dynamics, and articulation contrasts)
7. To broaden gesture vocabulary
8. Facility using each gesture with intent not habit
9. Become an active observer in your ensemble rehearsals (responding to conductors’ directives, thinking about conductors’ decisions, both gestural and musical, during rehearsal)
MUP 509/309: 1 semester hour credit, 30 minutes of class contact/instruction hours per week. Students are expected to practice outside of class meetings at least each day the assigned conducting etudes, repertoire, and exercises as well as complete score studies and self-assessments.