Syllabus

Course Description:
Advanced conducting theories and techniques for instrumental groups. Creativity is expected in coursework.

Program Learning Outcomes:
Students who take conducting will demonstrate the ability to analyze musical scores, including formal structure, historical context, harmonic analysis and for band/orchestra students, transpositions.

Student Learning Outcomes:
• The student will demonstrate basic and advanced techniques of the right hand as used in conducting.
• The student will demonstrate the ability to convey expression through non-verbal techniques.
• The student will demonstrate the ability to set and change tempo, dynamic level and style in conducting.
• The student will demonstrate the ability to analyze musical scores, including formal structure, historical context, harmonic analysis and transpositions.

Text: No text required, though the student will be assigned scores applicable to the current semester. Student must provide baton and legal copies of all scores studied.

Recording: Conducting students should take responsibility to make a video recording of rehearsals and concerts.

Course Requirements and Calendar: Because this is a private lesson, the schedule of events depends on the progress of the student and the availability of the large ensembles. Material covered is outlined here:

I. Address all conducting techniques
   A. Preparatory beats and releases
   B. Changes in dynamics, tempo, and style
   C. Cueing
   D. Subdivision
   E. Fermati
   F. Expressive gestures
   G. Melding and negating
II. Score study

Students will complete written projects on pieces of band music, covering all pertinent aspects, including, but not limited to: fermati problems and solutions, stylistic demands, tempo/rhythm problems and solutions, architecture of the piece, other musical considerations.

III. Final Project

The final project will be based on a score selected by mutual agreement of student and teacher. The score study of this piece should be in the same format of the two mentioned above.
The score study will be augmented by video, showing the student demonstrating a performance of the piece with an ensemble. This performance should show evidence of specific conducting techniques mentioned in the score study.

Attendance: Absence and tardiness have a drastic effect on graduate level work.
Grades may be lowered in the case of unexcused tardiness and absence.

Grades: Grades will be determined on the following basis:

- Conducting Assignments 50%
- Written Work 50%

Grading scale: A=100 - 90, B=80-89, C=70-79. Because this is a graduate course and the grade of D does not count, any final grade below 70 shall result in the grade of F for the course.

Face Coverings

Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any
information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.