Lessons in Advanced Conducting– Fall 2026

MUSP 791 – 2 credits

Instructor
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129 Music Instruction Building o: 765 285-5417
Office hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 1:00-3:00

Course Rationale
MUSP 791 supplements the conducting seminar (MUSP 690) with lessons in conducting, allowing for study of specific repertoire in preparation for a recital. The course meets requirements for the primary and secondary area of doctoral students in conducting.

Course Objectives
The objective of this course is to equip students with advanced gestural tools and musicianship to lead a variety of ensembles (collegiate and community) and progress toward the goal of becoming a comprehensive conductor. Students will practice:

- score study and score marking
- rehearsal techniques
- interpretation and period performance practice
- conducting gesture
- other career preparations

Students should seek opportunities to work with choral ensembles (on or off campus) and bring those scores and experiences (and the associated repertoire) into the weekly lesson format with videos from rehearsals and performance.

Required Materials
1) scores as assigned/agreed
2) score-study materials
3) metronome
4) materials for job applications: videos, CV, letters

Assignments and Grading
Students who attend all meetings and are fully prepared will receive full credit for each session. Students who attend class unprepared will receive prompt notice of the deficiency with instructions for improved participation. At the first instance, no points will be deducted from the final grade. For each subsequent instance, 10 points will be deducted.

Grade Scale:
A = 93-100, A- = 91-92, B+ = 89-90, B = 83-88, B- = 81-82, C+ = 79-80, C = 73-78, C- = 71-72, D=65-70 Less than 65 percent will result in a failing grade.

University Statement
We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse.

Disability Statement
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services Office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Freedom of Expression
In this course, we are committed to fostering a learning environment that values intellectual diversity, encourages free expression, and promotes open inquiry. As members of the Ball State Community, we treat each person in the Ball State community with civility, courtesy, compassion, and dignity and respect and learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions. Please review Ball State University's Statement on Freedom of Expression, the resources on Ball State's Freedom of Expression webpage, and Ball State's Beneficence Pledge.

Title IX
Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit bsu.edu/titleix or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at titleix@bsu.edu

As your instructor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment. This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

University Grade Appeal Policy
If you believe you received a final course grade that does not reflect your performance due to fairness or a procedural issue, you have the right to file an appeal within 5 school days after final grades are posted by the Office of the Registrar. Review the University Grade Appeal Policy and Process.

Student Academic Ethics Policy
Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Academic dishonesty and other forms of academic misconduct threaten the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and will not be tolerated. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity. Visit the VPAA's academic integrity website (Students tab) for resources on understanding academic integrity, citing sources properly, and avoiding inadvertent academic dishonesty. To learn about BSU's academic integrity expectations and students' rights, please read the University Student Academic Ethics Policy.

Academic integrity violations include giving or receiving an unfair academic advantage (cheating), presenting someone else's ideas or work as your own (plagiarism), and falsifying academic records. Unless otherwise indicated, you must work independently by yourself. Check with me if you are unsure whether something constitutes academic dishonesty. Examples of academic integrity violations include but are not limited to:

- Using resources not authorized by the faculty member (including devices, AI tools, hidden notes, and open books)
- Sharing or allowing others to access your files, whether done with permission or not.
- Soliciting others to complete work for you.

Generative AI Statement

All work conducted and/or submitted in this course should reflect your own ideas and demonstrate your current knowledge, abilities, and skills. Therefore, generative AI should not be used to complete any portion of the assignment. Doing so constitutes a violation of Ball State University's Student Academic Ethics Policy.