



**A&M Commerce**  
**Fundamentals of Conducting-Vocal**  
**MUS 313-002**  
Fall 2024 Syllabus  
MWF 10:00-10:50  
Music Building Rm: 105

Instructor

Dr. Randall Hooper  
Office: MB 197  
Phone: 903-886-5284  
Email: [Randall.hooper@tamuc.edu](mailto:Randall.hooper@tamuc.edu)  
Office hours by appointment or knock and enter

Materials

Syllabus  
Deck of cards  
Map pencils  
Choral Literature- Order Music from JW Pepper

Required Memberships

All students enrolled in MUS 313-002 must be an active member of TMEA and ACDA.  
Membership forms may be accessed online.

Course Description

Intended for the undergraduate choral conductor, this course is directed towards developing a working knowledge of conducting gestures and non-verbal communication determined to be necessary for successful conducting and teaching choral music on the secondary level.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate a mastery of beginning and intermediate conducting techniques with an enabling posture, hand position, and clear indications of preparatory gestures, downbeats, patterns for symmetrical and asymmetrical meters, dynamics, cues, beat subdivisions, syncopation, and alterations of tempo (i.e. tempo rubato);
2. Demonstrate expressive intentions through both physical conducting and oral communication;
3. Demonstrate effective score analysis and score preparation;
4. Demonstrate an understanding of performance practice according to the various stylistic periods of composition;
5. Demonstrate visual/aural discrimination skills for error detection;
6. Demonstrate the necessary skills to analyze, diagnose, and prescribe solutions to musical problems in a rehearsal setting;

7. Demonstrate Solfege competency both in prepared and sight-reading applications;
8. Critically evaluate technical and musical criteria of an ensemble rehearsal/performance.

### Course Requirements

1. Attendance is imperative to success in the class. This course will be the basis of your teaching and every topic covered will be imperative to you teaching. If you miss one class you will be behind and will have missed important information. It is up to the student to get missed work and materials from his/her peers. If you miss class when assigned to conduct, you will not be allowed to make up the missed conducting assignment and your grade will be affected. Your attendance is also important to your peers. Often you will be conducting each other. If you are not in class to sing for your classmates, their experience is diminished. If absenteeism becomes an issue, you will be asked to drop the class.
2. Grades will be weighted accordingly:  
Quizzes 4 total 25 pts. each (100 total)  
Conducting Projects 5 total 70 pts. each (350 total)  
Flowchart and Score Marking Projects 5 total 50 pts. each (250 total)  
Self-assessment of video 5 total 40 pts. each (200 total)  
Final Conducting Project/Flowchart and Score Marking (100 total)
3. Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:  
A = 900-1000  
B = 800-890  
C = 700-790  
D = 600-690  
F = 590 or Below

### Assignments

1. You will be expected to practice your conducting each day for at least 30 minutes. This is imperative to your development as a conductor. The music education degree offers you a limited amount of classroom experience to develop your conducting skills. Practice and an extended amount of repetition are essential to becoming a successful conductor.
2. Three of the conducting projects will require you to copy pre-determined gesture markings into your scores. Assessment of your conducting will be determined on how well these gestures are delivered as well as how well you communicate non-verbally through your conducting gesture.
3. The last conducting assignment will be assessed in a similar manner as the first four assignments; however, you will be expected to make gesture decisions on your own.
4. A conducting self-assessment will be completed after each conducting test. Every time you conduct you will be recorded. You will be expected to view your video and answer a set of given questions about your conducting. You should use this as a tool to improve your conducting gesture and communication. A total of 4 self-assessments should be turned in for a grade. **The assessment will be due the class following the test day.**
5. A flowchart and score marking assignment will be made for each of the five pieces you will conduct and the conducting final. This assignment will be due on the same day as the conducting test. Be prepared to turn in a Xerox copy of your marked score as well as a flowchart for the piece of music.

### Music Department Mission Statement

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

### Technology Requirements LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

### Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

The instructor will provide timely feedback on assignments and email questions.

## Course and University Procedures/Policies

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Attendance is imperative to success in the class. This course will be the basis of your teaching and every topic covered will be imperative to your teaching. If you miss one class you will be behind and will have missed important information. It is up to the student to get missed work and materials from his/her peers. If you miss class when assigned to conduct, you will not be allowed to make up the missed conducting assignment and your grade will be affected. Your attendance is also important to your peers. Often you will be conducting each other. If you are not in class to sing for your classmates, their experience is diminished. If absenteeism becomes an issue, you will be asked to drop the class.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## University Specific Procedures

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **A&M-Commerce Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>  
[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun.

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

#### A&M Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

#### Class Schedule

Week One and Two

Conducting Patterns

Planes

Hinges

Pattern of Size

Laban Terms

Week Three and Four

Quiz over Laban exercises

Fundamentals

○ Prep Beats-Conducting Rounds

○ Fermati-practice

○ sub-divided beat

○ Left hand

○ hand independence

○ cut offs

*assign Round*

Week Five

Quiz over Fermati

Quiz over Round cues

Score Marking

Practice Sicut Cervus mm. 1-11 cues

Week Six

Score Marking

Quiz marked score and flowchart for Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day

Test Sicut Cervus mm. 1-11 cues with marked score and flowchart mm. 1-11

Week Seven

Practice God is Gone Up and Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day

Week Eight

Practice God is Gone Up and Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day

Test God is Gone Up or Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day marked score and flowchart for God is Gone up due the day of the test

Week Nine  
Practice Praise the Lord

Week Ten  
Test Praise the Lord and marked score and flowchart due the day of the test  
Practice O Mistress Mine

Week Eleven  
Practice O Mistress Mine  
Test O Mistress Mine and marked score and flowchart due the day of the test

Week Twelve  
Practice Set Me As A Seal

Week Thirteen  
Practice Se Me As A Seal  
Test Set Me As A Seal and marked score and flowchart due the day of the test

Week Fourteen  
Practice Finale Ubi Caritas

Week Fifteen  
Practice Finale Ubi Caritas

Final Exam Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> 10:30-12:30  
Ubi Caritas and flowchart and marked score due at final exam time