

De Anza College
MUSI 50ABC Conducting I/II/III

Instructor: Dr. Grace (Yu Hui) Lai

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In person Class Days/Time: Tuesday 11:30AM-1:20PM

Office Hours: Friday 9:30-1:30 PM

Welcome to Conducting I/II/III. This course is an introduction to the art and craft of conducting. To develop fundamental conducting techniques and musical understanding, enabling students to effectively lead and communicate with vocal and instrumental ensembles. This course is open to students interested in pursuing studies in conducting and conducting professionally. Students explore the use of batons as well as rehearsal and performance techniques. It is extremely helpful to enroll in an “ensemble” music class, such as Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, Chorale, or Piano class, so the concepts we cover can be related to “real world” applications.

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Course Objectives

- Summarize the different roles of the conductor
- Demonstrate mastery of basic manual conducting techniques
- Analyze basic principles of conducting

CSLOs

- Describe the role of the conductor and demonstrate proper posture and baton technique
- Conduct basic beat patterns and master conducting (right) hand technique

Course Requirements

Required Texts/ readings

- Beyond the Baton What Every Conductor Needs to Know by Diane Wittry
- Your Guide to Basic Conducting by Frank K. Hukporti
- The Grammar of Conducting: A Practical Guide to Baton Technique and Orchestral by Max Rudolf

Other material/ equipment

- Assigned music scores
- Baton (12” or 14”)

Assignments/ Project

Students will be assigned short chamber music pieces (or movements) and will be responsible for preparing and conducting rehearsal sessions with a small ensemble. They will then present a polished performance of the piece, demonstrating their conducting abilities and musical understanding for the final evaluation. More details see project/assignment outline.

Attendance

- Attendance and participation at **all class meetings** is required and attendance will be taken at each session
- Excessive attendance problems will be unfavorably reflected in your participation/preparation grade, as well as your ability to submit assignments
- Please communicate significant attendance problems with the instructor on the **first day of class**
- Learn about content covered in missed classes from classmates and Canvas, not the instructor
- Late arrivals are disruptive and mess up Dr. Lai's chi. Be on time for each class and remain in class for the entire meeting time.

Grading Policy (100 points total)

- Beginning second week: 5 points for each week (x10 weeks) = 50 total points
1 point for being on time and staying for the full session
2 points for participation in class exercises
2 points for successfully completing weekly
- **Assignments/Project** = 50 total points

Final Grade		
93% and above	of total points	=A
90-92%	*	=A-
87-89%	*	=B+
83-86%	*	=B
80-82%	*	=B-
77-79%	*	=C+
70-76%	*	=C
60-69%	*	=D
59% and below	*	=F

Communication: Dr. Lai will hold regular office hours and is happy to help with both conceptual and technical issues where she can, so please make use of the office hour. However, last minute communications before due-dates will most likely not be responded to, so please plan to give adequate time to study the materials, print and complete your assignments, and test technology well before deadlines.

Extra Help and Support is available at the Student Success Center, at <http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

Academic integrity is the foundation of education, and a mirror of your own values and ethics. You must do your own work: Cheating on any quiz, test or assignment will constitute a "0" on that assignment, and a report to College Administration.

When you do group work, which I encourage, you must list the individuals who worked together. Independent thinking and writing must be clear (no direct copying one another's work). It is usually obvious when a student simply copies another's (flawed) work. See college policies on academic integrity: https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html

Disruptive Behavior: While this is a very rare occurrence, and generally resolved easily, you should know your responsibilities and rights. See <https://www.deanza.edu/student-development/>