Angelo State University
Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Conducting II - Instrumental
MUS 4282 010/01Z; 2 credit hour; Date and time TBD

SYLLABUS, Spring 2018
Dr. Jonathan D. Alvis, Director of Bands
Carr EFA Building Room: 136        325-486-6037 (office)     jonathan.alvis@angelo.edu
Office hours are posted outside Dr. Alvis’ office (Room 136).

Catalogue Description
A continuation of MUS 4281 (MUSI 4230: The study and practice of the physical gestures associated with conducting beat patterns, use of the left hand, cues, dynamics, tempo, phrasing, accents, character, starting and stopping, fermatas, merging, and baton technique).

Prerequisite
Successful completion of basic conducting (MUS 4281/MUSI 4230) or special permission from the instructor.

Required Materials

Conducting Baton; Metronome (recommended); Musical dictionary (recommended). Students are expected to keep a notebook with handouts and notes provided during class.

Goal
Conducting II will focus upon advanced conducting techniques while still reviewing “the basics,” rehearsal techniques for both large and small ensembles, score study/analysis, and selecting appropriate literature.

Course Schedule
A schedule will be provided for the course. Adjustments will likely need to be made throughout the semester based upon progress and needs of the class.

Objectives
Conducting
1. Conduct any standard beat pattern, including 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 12.
2. Demonstrate alternative beat pattern styles for meters listed in no. 1.
3. Conduct a subdivided beat pattern.
4. Maintain a steady beat pattern.
5. Gradually change tempo from fast to slow (rit.) and slow to fast (accel.).
6. Indicate appropriate gestures of syncopation.
7. Indicate a complete range of dynamics and dynamic changes.
8. Start and cut-off performers on any beat or any portion of the beat with appropriate preparatory gestures and eye contact.
9. Demonstrate independent and dependent functioning of left and right hands.
10. Indicate entrance cues where needed and appropriate, including left hand cues, baton cues, head nods, facial expressions, and eye contact.
11. Indicate appropriate phrasings with right and/or left hand.
12. Demonstrate an appropriate level of intensity/command and “impulse of will.”

Score Preparation and Score Reading
1. Sing individual lines of the score.
2. Justify tempo selection.
3. Justify the style and phrasing sought in the score.
4. Demonstrate freedom from the score (eye contact).
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of performance practice of various genres of music.

Rehearsal Procedures

1. Develop and describe an appropriate warm-up routine for various ensembles.
2. Discuss and implement effective techniques of time management during rehearsals.
3. Establish and accomplish a set of highly specific goals for a given rehearsal.
4. Observe and analyze various rehearsal techniques, discussing the effectiveness of the conductor.

Other

1. Identify common problems of the wind band in regards to balance, blend, and intonation.
2. Become familiar with influential conductors, pedagogues, and composers, as well as significant works for the wind band.
3. Discuss various techniques to motivate students and large groups both intrinsically and extrinsically.

Strategies/Assignments

Projects and assignments are made based upon a spiral framework (beginning with basic information and progressing to more advanced techniques) that have been designed to enhance the learning experience and, in most cases, are designed to recreate real life experiences. Assignments are due at the beginning of each class period. Late submissions will not be accepted. Student work will be evaluated based upon a rubric that has been developed by the professor. Specific instructions and rubrics will be provided to the student at the beginning of the semester. Assignments will also be uploaded to Blackboard for electronic access. All written assignments will be submitted via Blackboard. While review of information previously learned will occur regularly, it is the responsibility of the student to seek outside help from the instructor if he/she does not understand concepts learned in class. Asking questions in class is strongly encouraged.

Readings. Various articles and texts, selected by the instructor, will be assigned throughout the semester. Topics will include conducting, rehearsal, and score study techniques. These readings have been included on the course schedule. Students are expected to arrive to class having read the assignments and prepared for discussion in class.

Conducting Experiences (4). Each student will conduct the Conducting Class Ensemble 4 times throughout the semester. Literature to be conducted will be assigned by the instructor. The instructor will provide both written and verbal feedback immediately following the experience. Each experience will be video recorded and uploaded to dropbox (through Blackboard). The student is expected to watch each video to improve individual techniques before the next experience.

Grading a conducting student is a subjective process. The student must have faith in the ability and experience of the instructor to make subjective evaluations of his/her performance. Conducting (the physical aspects) come very easily to a select few. Some students struggle greatly. Others fall in the middle. The instructor has the ability to discern which students are really working and which students are simply coasting.

Rehearsal Plan (4). With each conducting experience, the student will provide a rehearsal plan as outlined in class. The rehearsal plan will be submitted following the conducting experience.

Score Study. With each conducting experience, the student will complete score study as outlined in class. The score study will be submitted following the conducting experience.

Term Paper. The student will write a 13-15 page term paper. The topic of the term paper will focus upon wind band/ orchestral literature, or influential conductors/band leaders. The topic must be approved by the instructor and should be appropriate to pursue publication in a scholarly journal. More information will be provided.
Quizzes. Four (4) quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Items addressed will be topics covered in class and through the assigned readings. A study guide may or may not be provided for each quiz.

Grading
The final grade will be determined by total number of points earned throughout the course.
A = 1,000-940; B = 939-870; C = 869-800; D = 799-730; F = 729-0.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Point value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conducting Experiences (4)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehearsal Plans (4)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score Study (4)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4)</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,000</strong></td>
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Attendance Policy
Students will attend class regularly. Each student is allowed one unexcused absence throughout the semester. Excused absences must be excused 12 hours in advance by the instructor. The instructor will determine if the absence is to be excused. If illness occurs frequently, you may be asked for written documentation from a physician. After the first, each unexcused absence will result in a one letter deduction of the final grade. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in an F for the semester and the student will be withdrawn from the course. Tardies are unacceptable. Two unexcused tardies will result in one unexcused absence. Like excused absences, excused tardies must be approved by the instructor 12 hours in advance. If a student is absent the day of his or her conducting experience, the student will not receive credit for that assignment and the experience cannot be made up unless prior arrangements have been made.

University Policies
Students must adhere to the University Honor Code at all times. The policy can be found in full at [https://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf](https://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf).

Accommodations for students with disabilities will be made to the best of the abilities of the instructor. The rights of students with disabilities can be found in ASU’s OP 10.15 ([file:///Users/jonathanalvis/Downloads/op-0614-faculty-responsibilities-and-duties.pdf](file:///Users/jonathanalvis/Downloads/op-0614-faculty-responsibilities-and-duties.pdf)).

Students will be excused from class for the observance of a religious holiday in accordance with ASU’s OP 10.19. This operating procedure can be found at [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of).