

APPLIED CONDUCTING, FALL 2019

Instructor: Dr. Cale Self

Office: Humanities 339 (class meets in 235)

Office Hours: Posted on my door or by appointment

Telephone: 678-839-6268 (office)

Email: tself@westga.edu

Class Meetings: Fridays 1:45-3PM

Course Description: Advanced seminar in instrumental conducting; score reading and analysis; rehearsal techniques; communicative and gestural issues; introspective musicianship study; performance preparation. Class is taught mainly via group discussion over assigned topics.

Course Objectives:

- To become a more thoughtful, caring, and transparent conductor, musician, and human
- To develop a vocabulary of interpretive gestural skills
- To develop an evolving knowledge of the language of music and artistic interpretation, specifically as it applies to instrumental conducting
- To develop critical listening and identification skills
- To develop and hone writing and speaking style as it pertains to writing about/discussing music
- To develop a deeper understanding of pieces studied via detailed analysis and listening

Weekly Course Outline:

1. The Musician's Soul, Part I (discussion)
2. The Musician's Soul, Pars II & III (discussion)
3. Gestural Basics (1st conducting assignment intro)
4. Transposition & Clef Reading
5. 1st conducting assignments due (present to class)
6. The Musician's Soul, Parts IV & V (discussion)
7. Wind Ensemble/Band History & Performance Practice (discussion)
8. Score Marking/Study (2nd conducting assignment intro)
9. Conducting/Ensemble Pedagogy (discussion)
10. 2nd conducting assignments due (present to class)
11. Conducting video analyses (discussion, final project intro)
12. Ear training/sight reading
13. Rehearsal techniques (3rd conducting assignment intro)
14. 3rd conducting assignments due (present to class)
15. Final projects due (present to class)

Course Materials:

- Conducting baton
- Jordan, James. *The Musician's Soul*. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1999.

- Assigned scores for conducting/score study assignments must be purchased. Other materials as provided by the instructor.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Attendance at all classes is required. As this is a seminar-style course with a small number of students, I would like to discourage even the thought of missing a class. Of course, I understand that emergencies do occur. To that end, each student is allowed one (1) excused absence for the semester. Students needing to miss a class should seek instructor approval prior to that class. You may not use your excused absence for a class where you will be presenting a conducting or score study assignment. Missing a class meeting without prior notice/approval will result in the lowering of the student's final grade by one letter per such absence. Grade distribution will be as follows: preparation of video and score materials for each class, including participatory discussion (50%), conducting/score study assignments (25%), final project (25%).

UWG Common Syllabi Language:

- www.westga.edu/uwgsyllabuspolices

NASM Wellness Recommendations:

- www.westga.edu/music/wellness