COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED CONDUCTING       SEMESTER: FALL 2015
COURSE NUMBER: MUS 359              CREDIT HOURS: 2
WHEN/WHERE TAUGHT: MW 11:00-11:50, MUS 239

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Continuing instruction in the conducting of music in the student’s choice of emphasis areas. Individualized instruction in the form of one private lesson per week. Prerequisite: successful completion of MUS 358.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Students will be able to:
1. Conduct all traditional beat patterns.
2. Properly execute the expressive gestures, including the fermata.
3. Develop an independent left hand for giving cues.
4. Adequately prepare the choral score for conducting.
5. Interpret the choral score and transfer to conducting gestures.

By the conclusion of the Advanced Conducting course, students must demonstrate an ability to conduct all traditional beat patterns, properly execute the expressive gestures, develop an independent left hand for giving cues, and adequately prepare the choral score for conducting. Students should also be able to use the piano proficiently as an instrument for independent study of music theory, analysis of scores, and preparation of compositions or arrangements, as appropriate to the common tasks of a professional musician.

TEXT:
Required: Choral Conducting: Focus on communication, Harold Decker, Colleen Kirk
Precision Conducting: Achieving Choral Blend and Balance, Timothy W. Sharp

Other Materials: Baton

REQUIREMENTS:
Attendance:
The student is expected to attend every class session. Because of the nature of the material, missed sessions must be made up with extra practice. More than 4 absences will result in failure of the course.

Assignments:
1. Complete reading assignments before designated class session. All reading material is available in the library or in the textbook.
2. Be prepared to conduct in class each day as assigned. Failure to do so will result in an F for the day.
Participation:
1. Students must become members of the National American Choral Directors Association.
2. Students must participate in the Southern Colorado High School Honor Choir Weekend, Nov. 20-21, 2015. A minimum of 5 hours participation is required. Duties will be assigned as the event gets closer.

Examinations:
1. Graded conducting every week beginning September 14. Assignments will be made a week in advance.
2. Final Exam in two parts:
   - Conduct a piece in class (60%)
   - Written comprehensive exam (40%)

Grading:
- Playing /Singing Grades 10%
- Weekly conducting 40%
- Projects and Score Analysis 20%
- Final Exam 30%

Grading Scale:
- A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 59 or below

Drop Date: September 4, 2015

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dana Ihm, Director of Choral Activities
Colorado State University - Pueblo
2200 Bonforte Blvd.
Pueblo, CO 81001
719-549-2125 (office)
719-429-2979 (cell)
Dana.Ihm@colostate-pueblo.edu
Office AM156 Office hours as posted or by appointment
### Reading Assignments (to be completed by date listed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 26, Wed.</td>
<td>Decker, Ch. 2 (p. 69-80) &amp; Ch. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 7, Mon.</td>
<td>Decker, Ch. 2 (p. 30-69) &amp; Sharp, Ch. 4</td>
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<td>Sept. 28, Mon.</td>
<td>Decker, Ch. 4</td>
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<td>Oct. 14, Wed.</td>
<td>Decker, Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 28, Wed.</td>
<td>Sharp, Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Nov. 4, Wed.</td>
<td>Sharp, Ch. 3</td>
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<td>Nov. 11, Wed.</td>
<td>Decker, Ch. 5</td>
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### Projects and Score Analysis

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 7, Mon.</td>
<td>“Where Your Bare Foot Walks” - Childs, Score Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 30, Wed.</td>
<td>“Wie lieblich Sind deine Wohnungen” from Requiem - Brahms, Score Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 26, Mon.</td>
<td>Project, Rehearsal Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 4, Wed.</td>
<td>“O Magnum Mysterium” - Victoria, Score Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9, Mon.</td>
<td>Project, Building a Concert Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 18, Wed.</td>
<td>“Hallelujah Chorus” from Messiah - Handel, Score Analysis</td>
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### Part Playing and Singing Grades

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 4, Fri.</td>
<td>“Where Your Bare Foot Walks” - Childs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 25, Fri.</td>
<td>“Wie lieblich Sind deine Wohnungen” from Requiem - Brahms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 30, Fri.</td>
<td>“O Magnum Mysterium” - Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 16, Mon.</td>
<td>“Hallelujah Chorus” from Messiah - Handel</td>
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### Conducting Grades

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14, Mon.</td>
<td>“Where Your Bare Foot Walks” - Childs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 5, Mon.</td>
<td>“Wie lieblich Sind deine Wohnungen” from Requiem - Brahms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 19, Mon.</td>
<td>Recitative from “Elijah”, #3 – Mendelssohn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 6, Fri.</td>
<td>“O Magnum Mysterium” - Victoria (during chamber choir, 12:20-1:15)</td>
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**Dec. 3, Thurs.**  
**Conducting Final** – (during Concert Choir, 2:00-3:20 p.m.)  
“Hallelujah Chorus” from Messiah - Handel

**Dec. 9, Wed.**  
**Take Home Written Comprehensive Final**, over both Textbooks,

**DUE: 10:30 AM**
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF MUSICIANS

The health and safety of our students is of paramount concern. Specific health and safety issues confronting musicians are summarized at: 
http://www.music.iastate.edu/info/advising/healthandsafety.pdf
From that publication:
“Hearing health is essential to your lifelong success as a musician. Noise induced hearing loss is largely preventable. You must avoid overexposure to loud sounds, especially for long periods of time.”
“Musicians use their bodies in specific and highly trained ways, and injuries can occur that can have lasting impact on performance ability. Performers need to be aware of vocal and musculoskeletal health issues that affect them. Musicians at all levels of achievement can suffer from repetitive stress injuries, neuromuscular conditions or dystonias, and psychological issues including severe performance anxiety.”
For additional information regarding health and safety concerns for musicians, please contact David Volk, Chair, Department of Music [175 Music, 549-2552, david.volk@colostate-pueblo.edu].

Vocal health is addressed in the following publication:

Additional information regarding repetitive strain injury may be found here:
http://web.eecs.umich.edu/~cscott/rsi.html

Additional information specific to percussionists may be found here:
http://jpp.percussionpedagogy.com/02-1-wellness.html

ACCOMMODATIONS:

“This University abides by the Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education “solely by reason of a handicap”. If you have a documented disability that may impact your performance in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see the instructor as soon as possible to arrange accommodations. In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to the Disability Services Office, which is located in LARC 169.”
ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Academic dishonesty is any form of cheating—which results in students giving or receiving unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise or receiving credit for work which is not their own. Any academic dishonesty is grounds for dismissal. Any student judged to have engaged in cheating may receive a failing grade for the work in question, a failing grade for the course, or any other penalty which the instructor finds appropriate. Academic dishonesty is a behavioral issue, not an issue of academic performance. As such, it is considered an act of misconduct and is also subject to the University disciplinary process as defined in the Student Code of Conduct.