

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

NYU Prague

Course Number: MPAME-UE 9465 P01

**Course Name: Fundamentals of
Conducting**

Spring 22

Course Format: In-Person

Time Zone: CET

Spring 22

You may be taking courses at multiple locations this semester. If you are enrolled in this course 100% **remotely** please make sure that you have completed the online academic orientation via Brightspace so you are aware of site specific support structure, policies and procedures. **Please contact the site Academic Director (vanda.thorne@nyu.edu) if you need more assistance.**

If you are attending **in person**, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change at any point during the semester if local COVID-19 regulations require additional physical distancing.

Instructor Information

- Name: BMus (Hons) Daniel Prokeš, DiS., dipl.um.
- Email:
- Office hours: by appointment
- Cell phone:

Course Information

- Course Number: MPAME-UE 9465 P01
- **Course Name:** Fundamentals of Conducting
- **Meeting times: (CET)** Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:20 am, Hrabal Classroom
- [NYU Prague Academic Calendar](#)

Course Overview and Goals

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Fundamentals of Conducting class for music majors meets for 80 minutes block per week, following a program that is structured with following goals:

Beat patterns up to 12 beats per measure

Conductor's non-verbal communication of dynamics, articulation, entrances, cues, releases and tempo change

Active conducting performance of assigned repertoire accompanied by four-handed piano

Full score preparation, rehearsal procedures and error detection / correction

Other conductor's abilities: sense for intonation and rhythm, aural skills etc.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

Prepare independently full scores of rehearsed/performed pieces (this includes: ability of reading full score as a conductor, understanding possibilities of instruments of the orchestra - especially range and transpositions as well as understanding of abilities of a human voice in the choir)

Lead rehearsals (this includes: establishing as well as changing the tempo, detect mistakes, show dynamics, expression and character of rehearsed music, communicate with ensembles as a conductor)

Perform as a conductor (this includes: proper posture, musical expression, dynamics and conductor's technique)

Course Requirements

Class Participation

Assignment 1: Active and demonstrative participation both as a conductor and as a musician

Assignment 2: Active collaboration/support with the principal instrument/voice and four-handed piano during lessons

Assignment 3: Aural skills test (focused on error detection)

Assignment 4: Final exam (practical performance of the piece of student's choice, max. 10 minutes)

Grading of Assignments

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

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Assignments/Activities	% of Final Grade
Quality of regular practice and preparation	40%
Lesson attendance and participation	30%
Progress throughout semester	30%
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—	—

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percent
A	91 - 100%
A-	86 - 90%
B+	81 - 85%
B	71 - 80%
B-	66 - 70%
C+	61 - 65%
C	51 - 60%
C-	46 - 50%
D+	41 - 45%
D	31 - 40%
D-	26 - 30%
F	0 - 25%

Assessment Expectations

Grade A: Outstanding work

Grade B: Good work

Grade C: Satisfactory work

Grade D: Barely adequate work

Grade F: .Not adequate work

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Course Schedule

Topics and Assignments

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Session 1 Wednesday, January 26	Description of the conductor's role, abilities and duties; Regular and irregular conducting patterns ;		To practise both regular and irregular conducting patterns (up to twelve beats per measure)
Session 2 Wednesday, February 2	Aural training; Irregular conducting patterns; Transposing and non-transposing instruments in the orchestra/band; Studying full scores from conductor's perspective;	W.A.Mozart: Overture to Don Giovanni (full score and piano score)	To practise and automatize both regular and irregular patterns in different tempos W.A.Mozart: Overture to Don Giovanni (measures 1 to 30 – including tempo change;
Session 3 Wednesday, February 9	W.A.Mozart: Overture to Don Giovanni (measures 1 – 30 incl. tempo change – measures 30/31)	J. Kofroň: Rhythm exercises	To practise assigned rhythm exercises (handed out during the lesson) both as a conductor as well as a performer;
Session 4 Wednesday, February 16	Conducting and performing assigned short rhythm exercises focused on regular patterns	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 in C major (1st movement - full score)	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 1st movement (introduction till tempo change - measures 1 to 24)
Session 5 Wednesday, February 23	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 1st movement (introduction till tempo change - measures 1 to 24)	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504 (1st movement - full score)	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504 (introduction till tempo change - measures 1 to 41)
Session 6 Wednesday, March 2	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504 (introduction till tempo change - measures 1 to 41)	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 in C major (2nd movement - full score)	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 in C major (the entire 2nd movement - full score)
Session 7 Wednesday, March 9	L. van Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 in C major (the entire 2nd movement)	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504 (the entire 2nd movement - full score)

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		(the entire 2nd movement - full score)	
Wednesday, March 16	SPRING BREAK - NO CLASSES		
Session 8 Wednesday, March 23	W.A.Mozart: Symphony No. 38 „Prague“ in D major, K504 (the entire 2nd movement)	J. Kofroň: Rhythm exercises	To practise assigned rhythm exercises (handed out during the lesson) both as a conductor as well as a performer;
Session 9 Wednesday, March 30	Conducting and performing assigned short rhythm exercises focused on irregular patterns	A. Dvořák: Rusalka (overture to the opera - full/piano score)	A. Dvořák: Rusalka (overture to the opera)
Session 10, Wednesday, April 6	A. Dvořák: Rusalka (overture to the opera)	A. Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 “From the New World” (2nd movement - Largo - full score)	A. Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 “From the New World” (the entire 2nd movement - Largo)
Session 11, Wednesday, April 13	A. Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 “From the New World” (the entire 2nd movement - Largo)	W.A.Mozart: Requiem (Introitus - full score)	W.A.Mozart: Requiem (Introitus)
Session 12 Wednesday, April 20	W.A.Mozart: Requiem (Introitus)	W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni (one accompagnato recitative on student’s choice - full / piano score)	W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni (one accompagnato recitative - to be selected)
Session 13 Wednesday, April 27	W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni accompagnato recitatives	W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni accompagnato recitatives or another piece based on student’s choices	W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni accompagnato recitatives or another piece based on student’s choices
Session 14 Wednesday, May 4	LAST DAY OF CLASSES W.A.Mozart: Don Giovanni accompagnato recitatives or another piece based on student’s choices		
Reading Day Tuesday, May 10	NO CLASSES		
Session 15	FINAL EXAMS		

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Wednesday, May 11			
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Course Materials

Required Textbooks & Materials: Full scores of assigned pieces (see course schedule) can be downloaded from IMSLP.org or will be handed-out during class time.

Resources:

- **Access your course materials:** [Brightspace](#)
- **Databases, journal articles, and more:** [Bobst Library](#) (library.nyu.edu)
- **Assistance with strengthening your writing:** [NYU Writing Center](#) (nyu.mywconline.com)
- **Obtain 24/7 technology assistance:** [IT Help Desk](#) (nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)
- **NYU Prague library:** [Tritius Catalog](#) (<https://nyu.tritius.cz/?lang=EN>)

Course Policies

Attendance and Tardiness

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspaces if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to Academic Director Vanda Thorne (vt21@nyu.edu) to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academic Director Vanda Thorne (vt21@nyu.edu) by email immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). **Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies.** Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to staff. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academic Director, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may

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negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequently joining the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Late Submission of Work

1. Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU SITE Staff), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.
2. Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
3. Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be discussed with the Site Director.
4. Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
5. Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Final Exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between final exams, please bring it to the attention of the site Academic Director as soon as this is known to facilitate alternate arrangements. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

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Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as though it were one's own. More specifically plagiarism is to present as one's own a sequence of words quoted without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer's work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student's intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science's Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following:

“presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else's idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

Classroom Etiquette

- Please be mindful of your microphone and video display during synchronous class meetings. Ambient noise and some visual images may disrupt class time for you and your peers.
- If you are not using your cell phone to follow the lesson, cell phones should be turned off or in silent mode during class time.
- Make sure to let your classmates finish speaking before you do.
- Please do not eat during class and minimize any other distracting noises (e.g. rustling of papers and leaving the classroom before the break, unless absolutely necessary)
- If deemed necessary by the study away site (ie COVID related need), synchronous class sessions may be recorded and archived for other students to view. This will be announced at the beginning of class time.
- Students should be respectful and courteous at all times to all participants in class. In online classes, consider using the chat function or “raise hand” function in order to add your voice to class discussions.

Inclusivity Policies and Priorities

NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue

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through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU SITE's Academics Office in writing via email one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)

Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website](#).

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the [Personalizing Zoom Display Names website](#).

Moses Accommodations Statement

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Prague.

Bias Response

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to

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another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, you may do so in one of three ways:

- Online using the [Web Form \(link\)](#)
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
- Phone: 212-998-2277