



FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD

KIIS Salzburg Program, Summer 2021

MUS 338-2 Topics: Instrumental and Choral Conducting

Instructor: Dr. Scot Buzza

Email: buzzas1@nku.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

Student musicians will develop conducting technique through analysis and score study, individual and group exercises, study of conducting drills, individual works and excerpts, individual "podium" time for conducting and rehearsing, and self-evaluation of videotaped exercises. Special emphasis will be placed on clarity in preparations, cut-offs, cues, fermate, dynamics, articulations, changes of tempo, irregular meters, and expressive gestures. Masterclasses and individualized workshops with conducting professionals will round out the course.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

Student Objectives and Outcomes:

Students will develop skills essential as beginning building blocks as a conductor of instrumental and vocal ensembles. Students will focus on clear gesture in the mastery of conducting patterns in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and additional subdivisions as applicable. Students will gain increased confidence as a conductor in areas of breath, posture, onset and offset gestures, fermatas, cues, dynamics, articulation, tempo changes, irregular meter, independence of hands, baton technique, and expressive considerations. Additional emphasis will be placed on continued development of score study and preparation skills, ear training, and performance practice considerations.

Procedure

- Readings, lectures, discussions, analysis and score study
- Individual and group exercises
- Study of drills, individual works and excerpts
- Individual "podium" time for conducting and rehearsing

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

This course focuses on critical listening, rehearsal technique, clarity in preparations, cut-offs, cues, fermate, dynamics, articulations, changes of tempo, irregular meters, and expressive gestures.

5. Required Readings and Materials:

- Video recording device (tablet, phone, computer, video recorder)**
- Baton
- Folding wire music stand
- Printed copies of score packet provided prior to departure
- Colored pencils

6. Graded Assignments:

Score Analysis

Each student will complete a written score analysis of two works TBA, in close collaboration with the instructor. (The second score should be the score to your final conducting project.) The analysis will include research into the historical background of the work and a bar-by-bar outline of the basic compositional analysis of the piece, and reference to interpretation considerations and specific conducting issues as well as a strategy for rehearsing and performing the work.

Final Conducting Project

Each student will prepare a work (approved by the instructor) to be rehearsed and performed by the student for a grade. The student will have several rehearsal sessions with the core of students (keyboard plus singers) before the final performance. The grade assigned to the project will be broken down as follows:

Score preparation:	50 pts
Conducting technique	25 pts
Rehearsal technique	15 pts
Final Performance	10 pts

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX/ Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based

discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/brochure2019update.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.