
subject catalogue S23 K24

course code DGX903

name of course

Basic Elements of Orchestral Conducting

specification

elective course

academic instructor

directory lecturer

prerequisite course

KOX030, DGX706

no of terms

2

contact hr/total

30.0

hr/term

15.0

hr/week

1.0

ECTS/total

4.00

Lect

0.0

Grp

0.0

Ind

30.0

Sem

0.0

Pract

0.0

graded or pass/fail exams

A

A

term

1

2

ECTS

2.00

2.00

aim of the subject

The course aims at providing the student with understanding of the fundamentals of orchestral conducting, the playing techniques of different instruments and instrument groups, symphonic repertoire and styles. The student will have necessary experience and skills for prospective work with music various size settings from small instrumental ensembles to symphony orchestras.

content

1st semester.

1. Playing techniques of the instruments
2. Breathing and manual technique.

3. a) detache, martellato, spiccato etc. of string instruments

b) legato and staccato of wind instruments

4. Basics of ensemble playing

5. Issues of phrasing.

At the end of the semester, the student will perform 1 work, either with ensemble or on piano.

Semester 2. Same as semester 1, further elaboration on the symphony orchestra and Classical symphonic music tradition, texture, form, style, articulation etc.

In particular, the following will be discussed:

- accompaniment of the Classical recitative and aria
- choir and orchestra in the works of the Viennese Classics
- opera ouvertures

learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student will

- demonstrate awareness of string instrument playing techniques and articulations
- demonstrate awareness of transposing of wind instruments, combinations of legato and staccato
- display knowledge of the fundamentals of symphony orchestra, the texture, form, style of works
- be able to score read

assessment

At the pass-fail exam, the student will conduct a string quintet with added wind instruments. Continuous assessment during the semesters also counts for passing the course.

assessment criteria

Positive assessment result is obtained when the student:

- is able to lead the work of an orchestra at a basic level,
- commands the manual techniques of conducting (knowledge of the orchestral repertoire from the Romantic period).

course reading material

Recommended by the instructor when appropriate.

Sample repertoire:

Vivaldi, Corelli, Händel: concerto grossos.

Haydn and Mozart: quartets, divertimentos.

author of course description

Toomas Kapten