CNDC 6904 - Conducting

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40902,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Michael Butler

Email: mbutler03@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Director of Bands
Instructor Professional Qualifications:

- Ph.D., Music Education & Conducting, University of Florida
- Master's, Conducting, University of Florida
- Bachelor's, Music Education, Tennessee Technological University

Instructor Office Location: Bliss Hall Room 2210
Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1832

Course Description

6904. Conducting. Private Music Lessons. 3 s.h.
Graduate Conducting is an advanced seminar designed to refine the artistic, pedagogical, and leadership skills required of successful conductors. Through comprehensive score study, rehearsal planning, podium experiences, aural skills development, and the study of wind band history and literature, students will strengthen their ability to communicate musical ideas, diagnose ensemble performance, and lead efficient rehearsals. Emphasis is placed on developing informed musical interpretations, cultivating an individual philosophy of conducting, and critically evaluating both historical and contemporary approaches to conducting and rehearsal. Throughout the course, students will engage in thoughtful reflection and discussion while preparing to serve as effective musical leaders, educators, and advocates for the wind band profession.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
	No reading		

Course readings will be provided.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24		Discussion	
8/31		Discussion	
9/7		Literature presentation	

9/14	Literature presentation
9/21	Listening and analysis
9/28	Listening and analysis
10/5	Philosophy
10/12	Discussion
10/19	Discussion
10/26	Literature presentation
11/2	Literature presentation
11/9	Conducting demonstrations
11/16	Conducting demonstrations
11/23	No class
11/30	Discussion
12/7	Final project due

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.