Choral Conducting I; MUSI 4220
Course Syllabus Fall 2006
Dr. Betsy Cook Weber; 713-743-3194; bweber@uh.edu
Office Hours MWF noon – 1:00; 2:30 – 3:30; TTH 10:30 – 11:30; 1:00 – 2:00

LEARNING OUTCOMES/COURSE OBJECTIVES---The student will develop basic gestural techniques in choral conducting, focusing most especially on those techniques related to physiology, function and character (see pages 3 & 4 in Course Booklet for definitions).

REQUIRED MATERIALS
1. Choral Conducting I Course Booklet; Dr. Charles S. Hausmann, author (Issued in class)
2. Choral Music Packet (purchase in class; cost is approximately $15.00)
3. Markers: yellow, pink, orange, blue
4. Three-ring binder---at least one inch

ADDITIONAL TEXTS FOR REFERENCE---On reserve in the Music Library
1. Conducting Technique for Beginners and Professionals; Brock McElheran
2. The Grammar of Conducting; Max Rudolf
3. The Modern Conductor; Elizabeth Green
4. The Choral Experience; Robinson and Winold

ATTENDANCE
Regular attendance is expected. Students are allowed two absences. On the third absence a student's grade will drop one letter grade, i.e. from a B- to a C-. The student’s grade will drop one level, i.e. from a C- to a D+ for every absence after that. The instructor may drop a student from the course after four absences. In addition, a tardy equals 1/3 of an absence.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURE
1. Lecture/demonstration of outlined topics.
2. Group and individual conducting performances of assigned material.

REQUIREMENTS
1. Regular attendance (see above)
2. Regular practice is necessary in order to make progress.
3. Preparation of assigned music, exercises and readings early so that you have time to ask questions and make adjustments. Preparation includes marking music as directed and being able to sing all voice parts before the first rehearsal of a piece of music.
4. Completion of videotaped tests
5. Attendance at out-of-class sessions to view video-taped tests. (This is a requirement, not an option!)

BASIS FOR THE FINAL GRADE
1. Class preparation---25%
2. Video-taped skills tests---50%
3. Final exam---25%