

# GRADUATE CONDUCTING DEGREES

University of Connecticut

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

Graduate Conducting Applicants must apply in a two-part process:

1. Complete Graduate Conducting Application (School of Fine Arts)
2. Complete University Graduate School Application (refer to Department of Music Graduate Handbook link)

### Audition and Interviews

On-site auditions and interviews will be scheduled in the Spring semester each year. Although there is no posted deadline for auditions, early application is recommended.

As part of the initial application, candidates should submit a short videotape or DVD (20 minutes maximum), containing two or three sections of contrasting material. The video could be either in rehearsal or performance, although both are preferred. The camera should be positioned to be face the conductor. Once the preliminary tape is reviewed, applicants may be contacted with an invitation to audition in person on an arranged date.

Priority deadline for application materials is February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## COURSES OF STUDY

[[www.music.uconn.edu/GHB/GHB.index.htm](http://www.music.uconn.edu/GHB/GHB.index.htm)]

Master of Music in Conducting (Instrumental)

Master of Music in Conducting (Vocal)

Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting (Instrumental and Choral)

Performer's Certificate in Conducting (Instrumental and Choral)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*With whom will I study?*

You take weekly private lessons with the professor in your area: winds, strings, choral. In addition there will be a weekly session with all graduate conductors and professors.

*How much podium time will I receive?*

Generally, you will be assigned at least one work on each concert. Depending on the repertoire and preparation needs, you will conduct during each rehearsal. When the opportunity arises, conducting students will also conduct in performances with ensembles from other disciplines.

*How long does it usually take to complete the degree?*

Master's students finish in two years or less. Doctoral students finish the course work in two years. It is possible to completely finish the degree in

two to three years. In addition to the course work there general exams and a dissertation.

*How many graduate conductors are in residence at one time?*

Each of the three conducting studios are purposely kept small. Usually, no more than two students per degree / area at any one time. This assures the maximum podium experience for each student.

*Are there assistantships available?*

Yes. Most graduate conductors hold an assistantship. In some cases the assistantship is earmarked for the conducting area. Other assistantships are competitive with other areas.

## LINKS

Ensembles [\[www.music.uconn.edu/Ensembles.htm\]](http://www.music.uconn.edu/Ensembles.htm)

Graduate Handbook – Music Department  
[\[www.music.uconn.edu/GHB/index.html\]](http://www.music.uconn.edu/GHB/index.html)

Faculty [\[www.music.uconn.edu/Faculty\\_and\\_Staff.htm\]](http://www.music.uconn.edu/Faculty_and_Staff.htm)

Dr. Jeffrey Renshaw

Coordinator of Conducting and Ensembles

Director of Wind Ensembles

Dr. David Mills

Director of Bands

Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Athletic Bands

Dr. Jeffrey Renshaw

Director of Orchestras

Dr. Constance DeFotis

Director of Choral Ensembles

Prof. Marvin McNeill

Assistant Director of Bands

Concert Band, Marching Band, Athletic Bands

Dr. Eric Rice

Collegium Musicum

Prof. Earl MacDonald

Director of Jazz Studies