



DT1602 The Practice of Orchestra Playing 9.0 credits

Orkesterspelets praktik

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for DT1602 valid from Autumn 2009

Grading scale

P, F

Education cycle

First cycle

Main field of study

Technology

Specific prerequisites

For single course students: completed upper secondary education including documented proficiency in Swedish corresponding to Swedish B, English corresponding to English A. Furthermore: passing an audition of playing a self-selected instrumental piece, scales, and sight-reading.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

On having completed this course, participants will be able to

- interpret the language and intentions of conductors
- play in ensemble at a basic level
- have gained fundamental and analytical aural skills
- understand the organization and the craft of orchestral work.

Course contents

The symphony orchestra is a complex organism in which people play together and follow a conductor, while mastering their instrument at the same time.

The courses in the theory and practice of orchestral playing aim to provide understanding of the entire process of musical communication, from the scored work to the sounding result. The theory includes sections on the fundamentals of music theory, room acoustics, instrument acoustics and auditory perception. The practical course that is offered in parallel entails participation in the KTH Academic Orchestra for two years. Orchestral works that are representative of various periods are studied and rehearsed in detail. Frequent recourses to the theoretical sections provide background to the conductor's instructions, and explain how the interpretation is an outcome of the piece's structure as composed, its instrumentation, the hall acoustics and how the conductor within these constraints chooses to render the piece. In addition, there are field visits to professional orchestras and seminars with conductors and musicians, that give insights into the possibilities of professional performance. The course aims to improve both the amateur musicianship of the participants and their background for understanding classical and contemporary music from more than one perspective, thereby contributing to a richer musical experience.

Course literature

(For foreign students, to be determined.)

Engström: Konserthuset och filharmonin. Bastian: In i musiken. Kompendium.

Examination

- PRO1 - Exercises, 6.0 credits, grading scale: P, F
- SEM1 - Exercises, 3.0 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

In this course all the regulations of the code of honor at the School of Computer science and Communication apply, see: http://www.kth.se/csc/student/hederskodex/1.17237?l=en_UK.

Other requirements for final grade

Written assignment on different conducting styles (RAP1), and practical conducting assignments (LAB1).

Compulsory participation in rehearsals, performances and rehearsal pedagogy (PRO1, SEM1). Credits in the course can not be earned by participating only in the orchestral work as such.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.