

Choral Conducting Specialism Syllabus

Assessment requirements:

- 1 An hour long concert of choral music with a varied programme including different periods and styles *and* the final rehearsal on the day of the concert.
- 2 An assessment of a rehearsal with a participating external choir with which the student has worked during his/her period of study.
- 3 A forty-five-minute interview (*in camera*) to include a selection of the following as appropriate (exact requirements to be agreed in advance with the student's Choral Conducting Tutor and Course Director).
 - a) conduct an unknown score to a piano realisation (The student will have the opportunity to view the score during a preparation period of up to 60 minutes immediately prior to the examination).
 - b) conduct accompanied recitative from an opera or sacred drama, performed by a singer and keyboard player. (The student will need to mark up both secco and accompaniment during the preparation period described above and then be prepared to justify their decisions to the panel during the examination).
 - c) sight-read a short vocal score in four parts (G and F clefs only).
 - d) sight-sing an unaccompanied piece (the students' preferred voice part should be indicated to the Course Director in advance of the examination).
 - e) demonstrate knowledge of pronunciation by reading extracts from German, French, Latin and/or 'German' Latin texts
 - f) discuss orchestration in relation to choral repertoire and practical issues such as choir administration, recruitment and motivation

Notes

- a) Assessment 1 is compulsory and may be chosen more than once. The student is required to recruit and rehearse the choir him/herself. The concert venue will be fixed by the Conservatoire Performance Department and Concert Office in consultation with the student. Hire costs will be covered by the Conservatoire.
- b) Assessment 1 concert repertoire must be approved in advance by the student's teacher(s), Head of Department and the Course Director. While programmes should ideally be wide-ranging, students with strengths in particular areas may be permitted a degree of specialisation.
- c) Assessment 2 is optional. The choice of external choir must be approved in advance by the student's teacher(s), Head of Department and the Course Director and the assessed rehearsal must take place in Birmingham.
- d) Assessment 3 is compulsory. The recitatives will be supplied at the start of the preparation period. The student will be responsible for organising the singer and accompanist.