

MASTER OF MUSIC  
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

1. Details

1004-561

- a) Course Title: **Score Reading I**
- b) Sponsors: Salvatore Scarpa, Conductor; Rowan University Orchestra and the Department of Music
- c) Credit Hours: 1 credit hour
- d) Course Level: Graduate
- e) Curricular Effect: Required course for the Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting
- f) Prerequisites: Acceptance to the Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting or permission of instructor, demonstrated proficiency in solfeggio (fixed Do) including the "C" clefs, and early/intermediate keyboard skills
- g) Suggested Time and Scale of Implementation: Fall Of 1997
- h) Adequacy of Present Staff and Resources: Present staff and resources are adequate
- i) Recommended Library Resources: The library resources are adequate

**2. RATIONALE**

Instrumental conductors must have the ability to read an orchestral score as easily as other musicians read music written for their individual instruments. This task is particularly difficult since it requires the simultaneous understanding of parts written in different clefs and transpositions. Although this skill can be learned through extensive experience as a composer, it is generally developed through the study of score reading at the piano. The piano is used as the best tool for acquiring and demonstrating proficiency in the ability to understand the complexity of the orchestral score.

**3. ESSENCE OF THE COURSE**

- a) Objectives of the Course: Upon completion of the course the student will be able to read, at a steady pace, music written on four staves, each of which will be notated in different clefs.
- b) Topical Outline/Content: During the course of the semester the student will:
  - 1. Study the series of graded exercises in Partiturspiel Book I by Heinrich Creuzberg, beginning in two parts and proceeding to exercises in four parts;
  - 2. Be introduced to the "C" clefs in combination with the treble and bass clefs with increasing levels of difficulty.

Evaluation and Grading Procedure: Students will be evaluated on the basis of successful performance of assigned exercises.

d) Course Evaluation: The course will be evaluated through student evaluation forms and appropriate faculty.

#### 4. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

This proposal was drawn after consultations with colleagues attending conducting master classes sponsored by the American Symphony Orchestra League.

#### 6. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Score Reading I \_\_\_\_\_ 3 S.H.

This course begins training the conducting student to read orchestral scores, including the mastery of clefs and transposition. It is a requirement for the Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting.