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MAJOR IN CHOIR CONDUCTING

The choir conducting major teaches the entire spectrum of styles from classical choral literature of the Baroque period to modern music on the basis of solid conducting technique. The emphases are a-cappella, symphonic choral works and choral opera literature. The acquisition of effective, individual rehearsal methods is emphasised as well as lots of practical experience with choirs of different genres.

The students are guided through artistic projects within the university (rehearsals with the institute's own seminar choir, rehearsals and concerts with the chamber choir and the University choir.) In addition there is the opportunity for each student to prepare parts of large choral symphonic works with soloists, choir and orchestra. The advantage of the Weimar programme is that students of choir conducting also receive lessons in orchestra conducting. The symbiosis of the interdisciplinary programme at the Institute for Conducting and Opera Coaching at the University of Music in Weimar is exemplary in Germany.

Project-based internships with choirs in the region (Philharmonic Choirs in Erfurt and Jena, Jena Madrigal Choir, Boys' Choir of the Jena Philharmonic) and the rehearsal opportunities with professional opera choirs (Erfurt Theatre, Hof Theatre) round off the superior practical aspect just as much as the projects voluntarily organised by students, for which the teachers offer their guidance. Many students already direct choral ensembles during their studies with guidance from their teachers.