**Reedley College, MUS 1A**

**Music Theory I**

**Syllabus, Fall 2019**

**Humanities Division**

**Instructor**

Prof. Matthew David Wheeler matthewwheelermusic.com

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**Office hours**

Music Building Office

Check Office Door or by appt.

**Course Schedule**

MWF– 9:00AM-9:50AM – MUS170  
Final Exams – Dec 9th – 13th Time-TBA

**Other Schedule**

CLASS WILL NOT MEET: Monday, September 2nd (Labor Day); Monday, November 11th (Vet’s Day Observed); Thursday-Friday, November 21st -22nd Thanksgiving  
Full Refund Drop/Add Deadline: Friday, August 23th  
No “W” Drop Deadline: Friday, August 30st

Final Drop Deadline: Friday, October 11th  
If a class is canceled other than these stated dates, there will either be advance notice given by the instructor or an official announcement placed on the classroom door.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**Academic Honesty and Disruption**

For detailed information regarding Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, and Disruption, please see pages 46-47 of the Reedley College Catalogue. From the catalogue: Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert and entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.

Please turn off and stow all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Students may be dismissed from class and counted as absent for creating excessive disruptions.

**Course Description**

The course will study music notation in G, F, and C clefs; intervals, scales, modes, key signatures, triads, seventh chords, non-harmonic tones, transposition, modality and tonality, analysis. Required of all music majors and minors.

**Prerequisites:**

Music 1B.

**Advisories**

Eligibility for English 126 and Mathematics 201.

**Required Materials**

*Tonal Harmony*, 8th Edition, by Kostka and Payne, ISBN 978-0078025143  
*Workbook for Tonal Harmony*, 8th Edition, by Kostka and Payne, ISBN 978-1259686764

Manuscript Paper for notes and homework

**Course Content  
Student Learning Outcomes:**

*Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*

1. Demonstrate comprehension of how pitch is notated on a staff using the three most common clefs.

2. Recognize and reproduce all major and minor key signatures and the scales, intervals, and chords contained within them.

**Objectives:**

*In the process of completing this course, students will:*

1. read and notate pitch correctly in G, C, and F clefs
2. learn the structure of the 12 major and minor diatonic scales, the whole tone scale, the chromatic scale, and the seven church modes.
3. recognize and reproduce key signatures for all 12 major and minor diatonic keys, plus the seven church modes.
4. transpose from one key to another.
5. learn the different types of non-chord tones.
6. study and extensively drill on all basic musical intervals, triads and their inversions, five basic

seventh chords and their inversions.

1. study the harmonic system and apply it to chordal analysis of tonal music.

**Course Expectations, Late Work, Visitors, and Extra Credit**

* It is expected that students will attend all class sessions and participate fully. Music Theory can be difficult at times, so hang in there, and please ask questions.
* Late work and missed quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior written consent of the instructor.
* Per the SCCCD policy, visitors (including children) are not allowed in classes without prior written consent of

the instructor.

* Extra credit, while unusual, will be offered to every student in the class equally.

**Course Grading and Evaluation**

• Weekly Test/Presentation – 20%   
 o Test will be held after each chapter unless there is a Midterm or Final Exam; and will address topics discussed during the chapter. No make-ups will be allowed without advance notice regarding an absence. 1 test score will be dropped from the final grade.  
 o Students will be assigned one presentation on a theory topic related to the course. Information will be provided.

* Homework – 40% – Students will submit homework at the start of class on the day assigned. Scores will be based largely on completion.
* Midterm Exam – 20% – There will be one midterm exam covering topics addressed to the midterm.
* Final Exam – 20% – The final for this course will be TBA.

Attendance - Attendance at all class sessions is required. This is a skill-based course that develops and builds on itself over time. One cannot acquire classroom information and experience if he/she is not in attendance. Absences will be reflected in your final grade. You will be allowed 2 absences with no additional penalty than any zeros received on quizzes or exams. After 2 absences, you will lose 5% off of your final grade for each absence. In serious, documented cases, a quiz may be made up in advance of an absence.

Assignments provide a means for you to practice the material covered in class and a means for your instructor to evaluate your proficiency with the material. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated. Late assignments will not be accepted. You are responsible for the work assigned in class even if you are absent. Test provide a means for your instructor to test your comprehension of material covered in class.

**Grading Scale:**

A: 92.5-100

A-: 90.0-92.4

B+: 87.5-89.9

B: 82.5-87.4

B-: 80.0-82.4

C+: 77.5-79.9

C: 72.5-77.4

C-: 70.0-72.4

D+: 67.5-69.5

D: 62.5-67.4

D-: 60-62.4

F: below 60.0

**Course Trajectory – Subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.**

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| **Week** | **Subject Matter** |
| 1 | Chapter 1 – Pitch, interval quantities, key signatures, scales, relative, and parallel keys |
| 2 | Chapter 1 – Continued |
| 3 | Chapter 1 – TEST 1  Chapter 2 - Rhythm and meter (simple and compound) Metric groupings, time signature, simple and compound time |
| 4 | No Class Monday Chapter 2 – Continued |
| 5 | Chapter 2 – Continued – TEST 2 |
| 6 | Chapter 3 – Triads and seventh chords |
| 7 | Chapter 3 – Continued |
| 8 | Review |
| 9 | MIDTERM (and review) |
| 10 | Chapter 4 – Diatonic chords in major and minor keys |
| 11 | Chapter 4 – Continued |
| 12 | Chapter 4 – TEST 3  Chapter 5 - Principles of voice leading (tendencies, cadences, spacing, voicing) |
| 13 | Chapter 5 – Continued |
| 14 | No Class Monday Chapter 5 – Continued and TEST 4 |
| 15 | No Class Friday Chapter 6 – Root Position Part Writing |
| 16 | Chapter 6 - Continued |
| 17 | Chapter 6 - Continued REVIEW for FINAL |