**Reedley College, MUS 31 & 331**

**Choirs**

**Syllabus, Fall 2019**

**Humanities Division**

**Instructor**

Prof. Matthew David Wheeler matthewwheelermusic.com

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(559) 638-0300 X3437

**Office hours**

Music Building Office

Check Office Door or by appt.

**Course Schedule**

MWF – 11:00AM - 11:50AM – MUS 170

MUS 331 only on MW / MUS 31 – MWF
Final Exams – May 18th – 22nd Time-TBA

**Other Schedule**

CLASS WILL NOT MEET: Monday, January 20th (Martin Luther King Jr. Day); Friday, February 14th (Lincoln’s Day); Monday, February 17th (Washington Day); April 6th -10th (Spring Break)
Full Refund Drop/Add Deadline: Friday, January 24th
No “W” Drop Deadline: Friday, January 31st

Final Drop Deadline: Friday, March 13th
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**

This course includes the study and performance of a wide variety of choral literature from all musical eras. Participation in all performances is required. The singers will read, rehearse, polish, and perform choral music. Tone quality, blend, interpretation, style, and musicianship are the focus of rehearsal. A minimum of two performances per semester is required.

**Prerequisites:**

Audition required if in MUS 31

**Advisories**

Eligibility for Mathematics 201.

**Required Materials**

Black 3-ring binder

#2 pencil

Recording Device (cell phones are Okay!)

**Course Content
Student Learning Outcomes:**

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

 1. Learn how to sing in an ensemble

 2. Ability to read advanced choral music

 3. Ability to interrupt new music in a performance setting.

**Objectives:**

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

1. Sing in at least 4-part harmony
2. Work within small groups or ensembles
3. Convey emotional context, appropriate for the piece of music
4. Have a better, more in tune, choral sound
5. Have a better understanding of the fundamentals of vocal technique

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

* It is expected that students will attend all class sessions and participate fully. While this course is not evaluating singing skill level, it is evaluating pitch accuracy, which comes from muscle memory developed over time. Everyone will be singing in class regularly as well as in individual evaluations
* 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**

 -Participation – 30% – Being in class and fully aware is extremely important in a successful choir. The more into the piece the group becomes, the more it comes to life. Never hold back from being the best that you can be.

-Musical Notes – 20% – I will be checking randomly that you have been making appropriate notes, that I the director will give during each rehearsal.

 ALSO A WEEKLY PART TEST WILL BE TURNED IN FOR A GRADE, VIA AUDIO RECORDING.

-Performances – 50% – There will be at least 2 performances this semester. One at FCC, and the other one with Reedley High. Both dates, TBA. Attendance is mandatory!!!!

**Note:**  The only way I will correspond with you all is through email ONLY!!! I am very quick as responding to my emails. I will be taking Sunday off from all correspondence, so all questions must be asked prior to Sunday. Please be aware of the hour if you email me late at night. Thanks.

Attendance - Attendance to 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 ONE LETTER GRADE for every unexcused absence**. In serious, documented cases, a quiz may be made up in advance of an absence. A doctor’s note is required for absences past 2.

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

**Spring Semester Repertory – Subject to Change due to skill level**

**-Theme is Music of the Movies-**

1) Blackbird – *From Across the Universe* – arr. Paris Rutherford

2) Mission Impossible Theme – *Mission: Impossible* – arr. Roger Emerson

3) Disney Fly Medley – *Disney Movies* – arr. James Ray

4) Alice’s Theme – *Alice in Wonderland* – arr. Mac Huff

5) Dig A Little Deeper – *Princess and the Frog* – arr. Mark Brymer

6) Moon River – *Breakfast at Tiffany’s ­–* arr. Steven Zegree

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7) National Anthem – arr. Matthew David Wheeler

8) Graduation Ceremony Piece – TBA

-All Members of the Choir Will Be Required to Develop a Solo according to the Theme!!! These will be performed at our Annual Cabaret Night!!!