

**Course Syllabus**  
**MUS-45/MUS-385A: College/Community Orchestra**  
**Spring 2024**

**Instructor:** Elton Chong

**Office Location:** MUS 175/Zoom ID: 695 476 0728

**Office Hours:** M 6:00-7:00pm before rehearsal or Zoom

**Email:** [elton.chong@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:elton.chong@reedleycollege.edu)



**Schedule:**

1st, 3rd, 5th Mondays of each month, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
0-1 units

**Location:**

MUS 170

**Important Dates**

January 19 : Last day to drop for full a refund

January 26 : Last day to add/Last day to drop without a “W”

March 8: Final drop deadline (letter grades assigned after this date)

Class will not meet: Monday, February 19 (Washington Day)

If 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.

Final exam: Participation in performances

**Course Description**

Standard orchestral literature of all periods and styles will be read, studied, and performed. Participants will develop orchestral skills and techniques. Standard as well as some neglected repertoire for symphony orchestra ranging from the Baroque period to the twenty-first century will be explored and performed in public concerts. Skills such as leading a section, blending and supporting within a section, exploration of tonal colors and possibilities, ensemble development, solo opportunities, style considerations, social skills, and stage presence and aspects of the performing experience will be developed by all participants. **Participation in performances is required.**

**Prerequisites**

Students must read music and be proficient on an orchestral instrument.

## **Course Objectives**

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

1. Discuss the correct musical style that is necessary for each piece of music that is studied.
2. Discuss biographical and historical information about the composers and the music that is studied.
3. Drill on the various rhythmic figures necessary to perform the music that is studied.
4. Learn to play simple melodies and scales in several different major and minor keys.
5. Review and practice the fingerings/positions necessary to perform the music that is studied.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

*Upon completion of the course, students will:*

1. Have a successful end of the semester public performance
2. Perform orchestral music in a variety of styles, representing several different historical eras through application of music theory, music history, and technical styles and aesthetics
3. Improve their technical and musical abilities and sight-reading skills
4. Improve their ensemble work skills
5. Enlarge their repertoire for symphony orchestra

## **Required Materials**

Several sharp pencils

Appropriate musical instrument (some instruments are available for loan)

Musical literature supplied by the instructor to be returned at the end of the semester

Instrument cover and/or mutes

## **Grading Criteria**

Grade Distribution:

Rehearsals            50%

Performances        50%

Grading Scale:

90% - 100%        A

80% - 89%         B

70% - 79%         C

60% - 69%         D

below 60%         F

## **Attendance**

If you need to miss a rehearsal or will arrive late to a rehearsal, please notify the director as soon as possible. The director plans rehearsals based on full ensemble attendance. Unexcused absences from rehearsals will be reflected in your Rehearsals grade. A member may be excluded from performing at the director's discretion for excessive absences or tardiness. Performances cannot be made up, and unexcused absences from performances will be reflected in the Performances grade.

## **Rehearsal Etiquette**

The following will help us have efficient rehearsals.

1. Having a full ensemble in attendance - When players are missing it is difficult to rehearse.
2. Beginning and ending on time- Please arrive early enough to be ready to play by 7:00 and return promptly from the break.
3. Minimizing talking and distractions- If you must talk to your section to clarify something in the music, please do it quietly.
4. Being prepared for rehearsal- Ensure you have all music and materials prior to the start of rehearsal. If you have a challenging passage in your music, please practice it before the next rehearsal.
5. Retaining what we rehearse- Write reminders in your music and review between rehearsals so we don't have to rehearse the same things each time.

## **Concert Attire**

The following attire is required for performances so the ensemble has a uniform and professional appearance:

Black suit (black dress pants, white dress shirt, black tie, black suit jacket)

*OR*

Black dress

*OR*

Black dress pants/skirt with black blouse

*AND*

Black socks or stockings, black dress shoes

Skirts and dresses should cover the knees when seated. No sleeveless tops.

## **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. 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.

## **Changes to the Syllabus**

This syllabus is subject to change, at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be made in writing and distributed to all members of the class, either in person or electronically.

## **2022-2023 Schedule**

FALL	SPRING
Rehearsals: 8/7, 8/21, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4  Winter Concert: December 8, 7:00 p.m.	Rehearsals: 1/29, 2/5, 3/4, 3/18, 4/1, 4/15, 4/29, 5/6  Spring Concert: May 10, 7:00 p.m.

\*Special rehearsal