

MUSIC THEORY 1 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mrs. Lisa Forkish
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Fall 2012- Spring 2013
M/F: Period 4 in room 302

Course Description:

Music is the art of sound and silence through time. Music Theory 1 introduces students to the basics of music theory and notation, which will allow them to read and write in their art form. Students will gain competency in basic music notation and music theory by completing homework, in-class assignments and composition projects. Students will listen to different styles and genres of music as presented in listening exams. All students are expected to contribute to the class by internalizing lecture materials, taking notes, completing in-class and homework assignments and contributing to class discussions.

Course Objectives:

By the end of Music Theory 1 students will cover and understand the following:

- Pitch: Note Recognition and Grand Staff
- Rhythm: Eighth, Quarter, Half and Whole notes
- Scales: Major and Chromatic
- Introduction to Musical Form: AB, AABA, ABC, etc...
- Texture, Timbre, and Instrumentation Terminology
- Tempo and Dynamics
- Measures, Barlines, Double Barlines, and Repeat Signs
- Dotted Notes, Ties, and Slurs
- Time signatures: 4/4, 3/4, and 2/4
- Accidentals
- Conducting related to Meter
- Enharmonic spellings
- Intervals and inversions
- Ledger Lines
- Solfege and Singing
- Composition: Melody writing
- Simple Melodic and Rhythmic Dictation
- Simple Melodic and Rhythmic Sight-Reading

Course Policies:

- Students will respect and follow all OSA policies outlined in the student handbook. Students will arrive on time, prepared and focused.

- No late homework will be accepted unless the student has an excused absence (list of approved excused absences can be found in the student handbook).
 - **Note: For an excused absence, a student must turn in the assignment the day after he/she returns to school. There are no exceptions.**
- All work must be done in pencil.
 - **Note: Any work done in pen will receive half credit**
- **Students will receive 0 out of 15 participation points for each absence. In order to have the absence excused, a parent/guardian must send an email notification with the reason for student's absence within one week's time.**
- No eating, chewing gum, or use of cell phones in the classroom. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in deducted daily participation points.

Required Materials:

Students must bring the following supplies to every class session:

- 3 ring binder with pockets for worksheets and handouts
- Pencil and eraser
- Blank staff paper or staff notebook
- Note pad or loose-leaf binder paper

Grading Criteria:

Students are graded on a point system. There are no category weightings:

- **Professionalism: 5 points per day**

Students will receive 3 points for arriving on time. Having a pencil and staff paper will award you 2 points. Students who arrive late, do not have a pencil or staff paper will not receive said points for the day.

- **Daily Participation: 5 points per day**

Students will receive 5 points per day for their attentiveness, and discussion feedback. Lack of participation and/or disruptive behavior will reduce points at the discretion of the instructor.

Homework: 10 points each

Each homework assignment will be worth 10 total points. Students must complete and hand in their homework assignments on time to receive full credit for that assignment. The homework will reflect materials covered in class.

- **In Class Assignments: 10 points each**

The number, type and grading style of assignments will vary depending on the topic and needs of the classroom.

- **Quizzes: 20 points**

Students will be quizzed regularly on a variety of topics including vocabulary words, listening exams, notation skills, dictation and reading and musical theory.

- **Midterm (50 points) Final (100):**

There will be two major tests (one midterm and one final) that will cover all materials addressed in class to that point. These tests will be administered during regular class time.

**Students will be given two final exams throughout the year at the end of each semester. The Semester 2 exam is cumulative and taken from materials covered throughout the year. **