

Music Theory I
Class Syllabus
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Music Theory is for intermediate and advanced level musicians looking to gain an in-depth knowledge of music for performance, composition, and arranging purposes. This class is designed for those intent on majoring in music in college, or for those simply interested in learning how music works. Course material is presented so students may expand their musical skills gained from their band, percussion ensemble or introduction to guitar classes.

Prerequisite(s)

Middle School Band, High School Band (either marching band, jazz band/combo, or concert bands), Percussion Ensemble, Middle School Choir, High School Choir, or private music lessons. A placement exam may be administered in lieu of the classes listed above.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, all students should be confident in their abilities to:

- a) Notate pitch and rhythm using basic notational devices
- b) Define and understand basic musical terminology and theoretical concepts
- c) Read melodies in four-parts. (SATB)
- d) Write and notate melodies in the simple, compound and duple meters
- e) Sing simple melodies at sight using a standard sight-signing system
- f) Recognize the basic intervals within an octave by ear and sight
- g) Sing and play the major, minor and chromatic scales
- h) Analyze chords and harmonies in a four-part chorale setting using figured bass and Roman numeral progressions
- i) Understand and identify the musical forms and cadences
- j) Compose simple bass lines based on melodic line and implied figured bass/Roman Numeral chord structure

Grading Scale

Class Work/Homework 40% Quizzes 20% Tests 40%

Required Class Materials

- a) Three-ringed notebook
- b) Staff Paper <https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/>

Optional Class Materials

- a) Laptop
- b) Finale Notepad <http://www.finalemusic.com/products/finale-notepad/resources/>