

Music Theory 1 Information Sheet

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General Information:

- It is strongly recommended that students take Music Theory 1 before taking AP Music Theory unless a student has studied at least one semester of music theory elsewhere and has had extensive training in aural skills such as dictation and sight-singing. In this case, the student would take a placement exam with the AP Music Theory instructor *prior* to signing up for the course.
- The Music Theory 1 course is roughly equivalent to a freshman college music theory curriculum.
- The AP Music Theory course is roughly equivalent to a sophomore college music theory curriculum.

Course Content:

- Music Fundamentals. Memorization and application of:
 - Reading music notation in treble, bass, alto, and tenor clefs
 - All major and minor key signatures and scales
 - Intervals
 - Rhythmic duration and simple, compound, and asymmetrical meter
 - All triads and seventh chords
- Music Analysis and Composition:
 - Composition of a bass line for a given melody, implying appropriate harmony
 - Realization of a figured bass
 - Analysis of repertoire, including study of motivic treatment, examination of rhythmic and melodic interaction between individual voices of a composition, and harmonic analysis of functional tonal passages
 - Functional triadic harmony in traditional four-voice texture (with vocabulary including non-chord tones, and cadences)
 - Instrument transpositions

 - Score analysis using Roman numerals and figured bass symbols
 - Composition using *Sibelius* software
- Ear Training
 - Pitch recognition
 - Interval and triad recognition
 - Melodic dictation
 - 2-part dictation
 - Harmonic dictation
 - Sight-singing
 - Ear training drills on *Practica Musica* software
 - Web-based ear training practice

Expectations:

- Students will practice ear training/listening skills exercises outside of class via internet websites and recorded assignments on Blackboard.
- Students are expected to use the music mobile lab to complete composition and ear training assignments.
- Students will prepare analyses of music scores.
- Students will create four-part realizations to figured bass and Roman numeral progressions.
- Students will be tested on music theory applications, ear training, dictation, and sight-singing skills.
- Students will participate in all classroom discussions and activities. Participation is a major component of this course.
- 2-3 weekly homework assignments, 2 major tests each quarter, 1-3 quizzes each quarter (including ear training), and 1 original composition per quarter.