

Graves County High School
Course: AP Music Theory
Instructor: Jeff Williams
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Credit: 1
Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Course Description: AP Music Theory is designed to prepare students to take the AP exam in Music Theory and to receive college credit. Emphasis is placed on the development of skills necessary to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Fundamental aural, analytical and compositional skills are used with both listening and written exercises. More creative tasks include harmonization of a melody, composing a musical bass line to provide two voice counterpoint and the realization of figured bass notation. There is a \$20 workbook fee.

Texts: *Tonal Harmony 5th edition* by Stefan Kostka and Dorothy Payne
Workbook for *Tonal Harmony 5th edition* by Stefan Kostka and Dorothy Payne
Sightsinging Complete and Ear Training by Bruce Benward
Other sources selected by instructor as needed

Performance Standards:

The Students Will:

- Come to class prepared for all activities with all necessary materials
- Participate in and complete all class work and have a proper and professional attitude at all times
- Make up any missed work, tests, quizzes, and other in class assignments within 2 class periods
- Maintain at least a 70 average
- Adhere to the attendance policy set forth in the student handbook
- Adhere to all classroom rules/procedures
- Successfully complete one writing portfolio assignment at the apprentice level or higher
- Present at least one original composition to the class on student's choice of instrument/voice
- Return completed verification form signed by parent/guardian AND student

Method of Grade Calculation: Grades are calculated using a points possible method of grading. Assignments are weighted differently depending on the relative importance of the tasks and the time required to complete them. Grades are averaged on a regular basis.

Final Exam will count 20% of the final grade.

Classroom Procedures:

- See rules in Student Handbook
- No food, candy, or drink (except bottled water)

General Outline of Course:**First Quarter (9-10 weeks):**

Reading	<i>Tonal Harmony</i> , Chapters 1-4. Major and minor scales, key signatures, intervals, triads, and inversions, 7 th chords, inversions, figured bass symbols, diatonic triads, Roman numerals, simple and compound meters.
Written Skills	Workbook materials, other similar exercises
Ear-Training Skills	Rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation (conjunct motion), some smaller skips with emphasis on strategies for dictation, interval identification, triads, seventh chord identification.
Sight-Singing Skills	Melodies selected from Benward. Strategies for sightsinging, conjunct melodies with smaller intervallic leaps, melodies in major and modes, treble and bass clefs.
Keyboard Skills	Major and minor scales, triads and inversions, seventh chords and Inversions

Second Quarter (9-10 weeks):

Reading	<i>Tonal Harmony</i> , Chapters 5-9, Voice-leading, part-writing, harmonic progression, triads in first and second inversions, cadences, phrases.
Written Skills	Workbook materials, original melody, and harmonization
Ear Training Skills	Continue interval, triad, and seventh chord identification, melodic dictation (longer diatonic melodies with larger leaps), harmonic dictation (strategies, soprano/bass line, simple progressions), error detection.
Sight-Singing Skills	Simple harmonic progressions
Other Activities	Take released AP Music Theory Exam and discuss in class.

Third Quarter (9-10 weeks):

Reading	<i>Tonal Harmony</i> , Chapters 10-15. (Nonchord tones, diatonic seventh chords)
Written Skills	Workbook materials, original composition using nonchord tones and diatonic seventh chords.
Ear-Training Skills	Continue interval, triad, seventh chord identification, melodic dictation (diatonic melodies with more challenging rhythm), harmonic dictation (more challenging progressions including diatonic seventh chords), error detection.
Sight-Singing Skills	Continue applying strategies to original melodies and those selected by the instructor
Other Activities	Take released AP Music Theory Exam and discuss in class

Fourth Quarter (9-10 weeks):

Reading	<i>Tonal Harmony</i> , Chapters 16-17. Secondary dominant and secondary leading tone chords.
Written Skills	Workbook materials, short compositions using secondary dominants or leading tone chords.
Ear Training Skills	Continue from previous quarters
Sight-Singing Skills	Continue from previous quarters
Other Activities	Intensive review and preparation for the AP Music Theory Exam; exploration of careers in music (after exam in May); final composition project.

Throughout the course, written and aural musical examples are analyzed and discussed with relation to concepts covered in class.

Acknowledgement Form:

By completing and returning the following form, you are acknowledging that you and your child have read and understand the expectations for *AP Music Theory*, and that your child must complete ALL Performance Standards in order to pass this course.

PARENT /GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE