

Perth Amboy High School
Music Theory
Grades 10-12

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Music Theory focuses on developing a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a musical score or work. Students will receive an introduction to listening, writing, and understanding varied aspects of music, such as melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, composition, and musical style. Students will also receive an introduction to basic musicianship skills, such as dictation, rhythm speaking, and sight singing. Musical examples, drawn from a variety of time periods and styles will be used to strengthen the student's awareness of these concepts. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to this course

Course Materials

All materials will be provided by the instructor. These will include:

- *Manuscript Notebook*
- *Pencil* (The only appropriate writing utensil)

Course Requirements

1. **Arrive on time:** In accordance with school policy, a late occurs after the bell. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late without a pass will be marked for a cut.
2. **Be positive:** Contribute with a positive attitude and good behavior. You know what to do.
3. **Be Prepared:** Arrive to Class with your Manuscript Notebook and a pencil. No one likes that person that brings nothing to the party!
4. **Participate fully:** Students are expected to be actively engaged and give their best effort every day.
5. **Complete all assignments:** All assignments are weighted according to their difficulty and importance, but they all count towards your final grade.

Google Classroom

Any form of communication on assignments and upcoming events to students will be in the form of Google classroom updates.

Music Technology

Music Programs will be used throughout the year (Noteflight, MusicTheory.net, SoundTrap) Students must have chromebooks **FULLY CHARGED** for classroom use.

Grading Policy (My Favorite Part!)

QUIZZES & TESTS (60%)- Quizzes and Tests are in the form of a few elements that include but not limited to MusicTheory.net Exercises, Composition Projects, and/or Written Exams

PARTICIPATION (35%) – Although not a performance-based class, participation is the most important element to the final grade. Great participation implies that a student demonstrates a positive attitude, a willingness to follow instruction and assist others, and be a responsible member of the class. Some form of vocalization of music (singing) will be required throughout the course.

HOMEWORK (5%)- Simply put, the Instructor will, from time to time, assign outside work such as writing critiques, online exercises, etc. Each assignment will be weighted according to the difficulty and importance.

Course Topics

- **Fundamentals**
 - Notation, Rhythms, Accidentals
- **Scales, Tonality, and Keys**
 - Diatonic major/minor scales, intervals
- **Meter**
 - Simple/Compound
- **Ear Training**
 - Major/Minor/perfect Intervals
 - Consonance/Dissonance
- **Melody**
 - Melodic organization, ear training, nonharmonic tones, composition, analysis
- **Chords**
 - Diatonic major/minor harmony, chord function, chord quality, cadences, analysis, composition, ear training
 - Triads
 - 7th Chords
- **Part Writing**
 - Melody and accompaniment, motion
- **Music Production**
 - Phrases/Motif
 - Song Form
 - Music Production

Music Theory Contract 22-23

I, _____, have read the course syllabus and fully aware of the responsibilities set forth in the class.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____