

## **Course Name: Advanced Placement Music Theory (Honors)**

Course Description: This course is offered for college bound music majors and students with a high interest in the study of music. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental. It is also assumed that the student has acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument. *Students may qualify for college credit by taking the Advanced Placement exam administered in the spring.*

Student Proficiencies: The ultimate goal of an AP Music Theory course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. The student should attain a mastery of the rudiments and terminology of music, including: notation, intervals, scales and keys, chords, metric organization, and rhythmic patterns. The course will focus primarily on the system of major-minor tonality, but will introduce the church modes and other scales. The student will learn to compose a bass line for a given melody, implying appropriate harmony; realize a figured bass, realize a Roman numeral progression, and learn to analyze repertoire, including harmonic analysis of functional tonal passages. The student will also attain an understanding of standard rhythms and meters; phrase structure; and small forms. The student will read, notate, compose, perform, and listen to music. Aural skills will be developed through listening to musical works, performance-using singing, keyboard, and students' primary performance media. Sight-singing will be stressed.

Text: Elementary Harmony-Theory and Practice by Robert W. Ottman

Assessment and Grading: A variety of different assessment tools will be used to measure student performance, including participation. Each assignment will be given a weight expressed in points. Major assignments, tests, and projects will have larger weights than smaller assignments, homework, etc. At the end of each quarter, the total number of points earned will be divided by the total number of points assigned. All students are encouraged to complete course requirements in a timely and responsible manner. Late assignments are accepted, but penalized proportionally by how late they are turned in.

Grades are assigned according to the following scale:

90 – 100=A; 80 – 89=B; 70 – 79=C; 60 – 69=D; Below 60=F

Student Responsibility: Attendance and discipline shall follow the rules of the school handbook. Students are expected to complete all assignments. In addition, students will be required to take quizzes and tests. Other course requirements include participating in class and completing projects (individual and group).

Attendance: Class participation is expected and is defined as regular attendance.

Contacting the teacher: Available at school from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Further time is available by appointment. Help is available during class or via e-mail.

285-3316

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