

Introduction to Music Theory

Marcellus High School 2022

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Welcome to Music Theory! This class is designed for students who seek to enrich their knowledge of the fundamentals of music. Whatever musical background students come from, music theory can be intriguing and inspiring (might even help your math skills)! By knowing how elements of music interact to create musical style and effect, students will truly better appreciate how music is brought to life and its ability to communicate to others.

Objectives:

- To develop knowledge and understanding of the concepts of music theory
- To develop music skills through understanding of all content areas

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify the following: Grand Staff, Time Signatures, Note and Rest values, Key Signatures, Clefs, Accidentals/Enharmonics, Intervals, Scales: Major, Minor and Chromatic, The Circle of Fifths, Triads: Major, Minor, Augmented, Diminished, Inversions, Dominant 7ths
- Define and understand basic music terms
- Read and notate melodies in Treble and Bass Clef
- Notate pitch and rhythm following standard notation practices
- Write Major and Minor Scales
- Recognize all intervals within an octave
- Recognize chord types
- Have a basic understanding of early Music History up to the Classic Era.

Required Course Materials:

- 1.5 inch or 2 inch, 3-Ring binder (see following page)
- Staff Paper (provided, or you can download some and print it)
- PENCILS (Music notation is a precise task which requires neatness. Assignments will only be given full credit if they are in pencil. NO PENS SHOULD BE USED AT ANY TIME!)

Grading Policy

A grade of “zero” will be issued for any missing assignments and will be marked clearly in Powerschool. The standard MHS grading scale will be used as indicated in the student handbook.

Music theory is a class which requires an evaluation of skills through written understanding of musical concepts, therefore the grade will be based on the following:

- Homework and Classwork 25%
- Written tests and quizzes 25%
- Projects 20%
- 3-Ring Binder 15%
- Participation 15%

Class assignments are given, collected, and graded in order to check your progress. Homework will be collected at the beginning of class on the due date unless otherwise specified. ***Late assignments will be accepted, HOWEVER, the grade value will be lowered 5 points everyday that it is passed due.*** If you are absent, please follow the student handbook guidelines regarding assignments. Extra credit work may be available periodically.

Other Information

3-Ring Binder

Why? You will need this to keep your papers in sequential order. Every new topic builds on a previous topic. Your papers need to be in the order that we learn topics so that you can go back and easily find previous information to help you with something new. ALWAYS date your notes, assignments, or handouts, as it will be beneficial to you. You will be required to turn this in at the end of the marking period(s) for a grade. Keep it clean, neat, and well organized, decorate it for bonus points. You get the picture.

Cell Phones and Earbuds

Cell phones should be turned off and kept in your locker per the student handbook. If you bring your phone to class, please make sure that it is off and place it in the phone holder. This is not entrapment; you may have it back at the end of class. Please note that if your phone is lost, stolen or damaged the school and myself are not liable in any way (meaning, we won't replace it for you). If you are not honest, and your phone goes off during instruction time, please refer to the rules in the student handbook. Earbuds are not permitted in any class per Mrs. Wagner.

Classroom Rules and Consequences:

Rules:

1. Respect others and their property.
2. Respect the band room furniture (chairs, music stands, etc.).
3. Be in your seat and ready to learn by the time the 2nd bell rings.
4. No food, gum, candy or pop are permitted in the band room.

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Office/Referral/Lunch detention.
3. Call home/lunch detention/ISS.
4. ISS/Removal from the class/No 2nd semester Guitar class.

Tardies:

Refer to the MHS Handbook.

This and That

Google Classroom Code: e4sgmqn

Flipgrid code: flipgrid.com/essex9862

Chromebook add-ons: Flat for Docs - music notation

Free Download: Finale Notepad <https://www.finalemusic.com/products/notepad/>

*Don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't understand something. Music Theory is new territory for many of you and I will gladly slow down if I'm going too fast. If at any time you are ready for more advanced material - ASK! You may email me at any time or post comments (school appropriate) in Google Classroom. Warning! I do not check my email between 8pm and 7am.

Name _____

Tell me 1-2 things about yourself that you think I should know that will help you be successful this year.