



Southside High School
Fine Arts Department

Course Syllabus Music Theory

Course Title: Music Theory (1th Period)

Instructors: Matt Weaver,

Room: 103 Band Room / Biddle Auditorium

Phone: (256) 442-2172 ext. 8

Email: matt_weaver@ecboe.org,

Website: https://sshs.ecboe.org/staff_directory/fine_arts/w_e_a_v_e_r_m_a_t_t

COURSE DESCRIPTION

WELCOME TO MUSIC THEORY!! This class is an elective course aimed at increasing fine art's students' awareness of various types of music in western culture and takes an in-depth look at music's inner workings. Over the next year we'll delve into advanced mathematical theory, musicology, and even the physics and psychology of music. It is my hope that you will both enjoy and be challenged by this course!

Please note – Music Theory is an Advanced Music Appreciation, elective class. This is a demanding course. It is the goal of Southside High School to prepare our students for college or the work place after graduation in every class. Therefore, we hold **all** of students to a very high expectation. While this class is designed to be fun and less academically rigorous than a normal "core class", students will be kept busy every day with assignments, project & reports.

I. Goals

- A. Students will discuss and experience varying musical styles as well as corresponding visual and theatrical art forms occurring throughout history.
- B. Students will learn the basic and advanced elements of music theory.
- C. Students will analyze and describe musical elements of diverse genres and stylistic periods.
- D. Students will relate music to history and culture, to the other arts, and to other "core" disciplines.

II. Requirements

- A. Students are **expected to arrive on time with all materials** (notebook, pencil, other materials as announced).
- B. Students are expected to participate in all class activities, group or individual; listening; reading; or writing.
- C. *Students will present several individual and group projects on varied musical topics throughout the course of the semester.*
- D. Students are required to keep all materials and assignments in a notebook. T
- E. **Students are expected to be open-minded to ALL musical and artistic genres, as well as to all opinion-based musical and/or artistic discussion.**

III. Grading

- A. Daily Grades (30% of Grade)— (Entered in Weekly) Includes participation in class activities such as (but not limited to) daily group activities, individual activities, homework, etc.
- B. Test Grades (70% of Grade)—Includes written tests, major presentations, journal/reports, etc.

The academic misconduct policy of the school will be followed in this course.

The attendance policy of the school will be followed in this course.

All requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from the student or parent.

Any student who receives failing grades during this course is urged to discuss this with the teacher

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE:

ENGAGED – This class in particular only works if students have a hunger for learning and actively seek out new knowledge.

PUNCTUAL – Late is late. You must be inside the classroom when the bell BEGINS to ring.

PREPARED – Have all materials needed for class everyday.

RESPONSIBLE – YOU are responsible for YOUR decisions, actions, and assignments.

RESPECTFUL – Be respectful to the teacher and of others' opinions & tastes.

NOTEBOOKS

Each student is required to keep a *three-ring binder* with labeled divider tabs for this course with all class notes, worksheets, presentation reviews, and journal entries. Notebooks are to be organized into the following sections by labeled dividing tabs: **Notes, Journals, Handouts, & Graded Work.**

*All students are required to have their notebooks and dividers **by the last Friday in August for a grade.** Any student and/or parents who may need any accommodations should inform the teacher privately before this time. Non-communicated needs will NOT BE excused.*

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC POLICY

Several assignments require students to bring music to accompany a presentation. All music used in class must be appropriate for an academic setting. Offensive lyrics and subject matter (including ANY profane language regardless of "severity") will result in a grade of zero and appropriate classroom discipline (subject to offense and discretion of the teacher) will be administered.

LATE WORK POLICY

Late assignments will be accepted with a 10 point first day deduction, followed by a 10-point deduction for each following day, up to 4 days late. A zero will be given for an assignment more than four days late. Work missed for an excused absence may be made up, but it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to make up any missed assignments.

COURSE OVERVIEW

1st Nine Weeks

Introduction to Course
Pitch Notation
Rhythmic Notation
Meter
The Story of Music: Antiquity – The Middle Ages
"Life in the Dark Ages" Project

3rd Nine Weeks

The Story of Music: Classical – Romantic
Seventh Chords Construction / Identification
Secondary Chords Identification / Construction
Roman Numeral Analysis
The Story of Music: 20th Century Serialism –
Post Modernism
"Be a Composer": 12 Tone Composition
Project

2nd Nine Weeks

The Story of Music: Renaissance – Baroque
Major Scales
Scale Degrees
Key Signatures in Major Keys
Minor Scales
Key Signatures in Minor Keys
Intervals (Generic & Specific)
Interval Identification / Construction
Triads Identification / Construction
Triad Inversions / Figured Bass
Mid Term Exams

4th Nine Weeks

The Story of Music: American Music 18th – 20th
Century Pop Music
"Its all Jazz to Me" Jazz Genre PowerPoint
Project
Overtone Series
Transposition
20th Century American Pop Music Review
R&B
Rock & Rock (Timeline Project)
Funk/Soul
Disco (Dance Project)
Hip Hop (Mock Trial Project) 2
Final Exam