

MS MUSIC THEORY 3 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mrs. Lisa Forkish
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Fall 2014 – Spring 2015
M/F: Period 4 in RM 221

Course Description:

Music Theory 3 expands upon topics covered in Theory 2, further developing the students' knowledge of chord structure and application, composition, arrangement, sight-singing and ear training. Through completion of homework, in-class assignments, composition and arranging projects, students will gain competency in spelling of all types of 7th chords, chordal tensions/upper structures, melody writing and harmonization. Students will listen to different styles and genres of music as presented in listening exams, and will be given short dictation quizzes to further develop their musical ear. All students are expected to contribute to the class by internalizing lecture materials, taking notes, completing in-class and homework assignments and contributing to class discussions.

Course Objectives:

Music Theory 3 students will cover and understand the following:

- Review of Triads: Major, Minor, Augmented, Diminished
- Review of Intervals: Major, Minor, Perfect, Augmented, Diminished
- Review of 7th Chords: Major, Dominant, Minor, Minor 7b5, Diminished
- Chords: Suspended 4 and 2, Slash Chords
- Rhythm: Groove and Syncopation
- Tensions/Upper Structures: adding 9, 11, 13 to 7th Chords
- Compound Meter: 6/8, 9/8, 12/8
- Arrangement: 4-Part Writing (Homophonic and Polyphonic)
- Composition: Melody Writing and Harmonization
- Writing a Lead Sheet
- Melodic and Rhythmic Dictation

Course Policies:

- Students will respect and follow all OSA policies outlined in the student handbook. Students will arrive on time, prepared and focused.
- Students who are absent are given a 0/15 for the day.
- Students with excused absences that meet the notification requirements stated in the OSA handbook, will receive an EX/15, provided that they provide VM teacher with either email or hand-written note from parent to verify that absence was excused.
- No late homework will be accepted unless the student has an excused absence (list of approved excused absences can be found in the student handbook).
 - Note: For an excused absence, a student must turn in the assignment the day after he/she returns to school. There are no exceptions.
- Students are expected to take pride in their classroom by keeping it neat and clean.
- Students must be seated and ready with all necessary materials by the second bell. Students who do not arrive on time are considered tardy and will lose 5 participation points for the day.
- No eating, chewing gum, or use of cell phones in the classroom. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in deducted daily participation points.
- All work must be done in pencil.

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with or without advanced notice

- Note: Any work done in pen will receive half credit

Grading Criteria:

Students are graded on a point system. There are no category weightings:

- **Participation: 15 points per day**
Students will receive 15 points per day for showing up on time, participating fully, refraining from side chatter and generally behaving in an engaged and professional manner.
- **Homework: 10 points each**
Each homework assignment will be worth 10 total points. Students must complete and hand in their homework assignments on time to receive full credit for that assignment. The homework will reflect materials covered in class and will typically be due the following day.
- **In-Class Assignments: 10 points each**
The number, type and grading style of assignments will vary depending on the topic and needs of the classroom.
- **Projects: 25-75 points each**
Over the course of the semester, students will be given small writing and arranging projects in order to develop notation skills and apply concepts taught in class.
- **Quizzes: 15-30 points**
Students will be quizzed regularly. Types of quizzes will include dictation, ear training (interval/triad identification), sight-singing and short excerpts from written theory lessons.
- **Midterm (50 points) Final (100):**
There will be two major tests (one midterm and one final) that will cover all materials addressed in class to that point. These tests will be administered during regular class time.

Required Materials:

Students must bring the following supplies to every class session:

- 3 ring binder with pockets for worksheets and handouts
- Pencil and eraser
- Blank staff paper or staff notebook
- Note pad or loose-leaf binder paper