

MUSIC THEORY 1 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mr. Sólás B. Lalgee
slalgee@oakarts.org

Fall 2014 thru Spring 2015
M/F: Period 4 in Room 205

<http://blalgee.blogspot.com>

Course Description:

Music is the art of sound and silence through time. Music Theory 1 introduces students to the basics of music theory and notation, which will allow them to read and write in their art form. Students will gain competency in basic music notation and music theory by completing homework, in-class assignments and composition projects. Students will listen to different styles and genres of music as presented in listening exams. 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. A major focus will be placed on ending the fear of music theory. An open mind is an absolute key factor in taking this class!

Course Objectives:

By the end of Music Theory 1 students will cover and understand the following:

Clefs: Treble and Bass
Pitch: Note Recognition and Grand Staff
Rhythm: Eighth, Quarter, Half and Whole notes
Scales: Major, Minor (Natural, Melodic and Harmonic) and Chromatic
Introduction to Musical Form: AB, AABA, ABC, through form, 12 bar blues
Texture, Timbre, and Instrumentation Terminology
Tempo and Dynamics
Measures, Barlines, Double Barlines, and Repeat Signs
Dotted Notes, Ties, and Slurs
Time signatures: 4/4, 3/4, and 2/4 (with conducting patterns)
Conducting related to Meter
Accidentals
Enharmonic spellings
Intervals and Inversions
Ledger Lines
Solfege and Singing
Composition: Melody writing
Simple Melodic and Rhythmic Dictation
Simple Melodic and Rhythmic Sight-Reading
Experimentation with Playing Chordal Instruments
Auditory Identification of Major, Minor, Sus 4, Augmented, Dominant, and Diminished Triads and Dominant 7th Chords

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Key Signatures and the Circle of 5ths

Course Policies:

Students will respect and follow all OSA policies outlined in the student handbook. Students will arrive on time, prepared and focused.

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

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.

All work must be done in pencil.

Note: Any work done in pen will receive half credit

Students will receive 0 out of 15 participation points for each absence. In order to have the absence excused, a parent/guardian must send an email notification with the reason for student's absence within one week's time.

No eating, chewing gum, or use of cell phones in the classroom (unless as requested by the teacher or upon request of the student for educational purposes. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in deducted daily participation points.

Required Materials:

Students must bring the following supplies to every class session: Pencils with erasers and staff paper (some will be available in class but students can download staff paper online or purchase to be further prepared.)

Grading Criteria:

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

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Professionalism: 15 points per day

Students should arrive quietly and immediately retrieve their notebooks from the classwork box, be ready in their seat, begin working on the ice-breaker assignment written on the board daily. Students are also required to make sure their work space is clean upon leaving and whatever changes have been made to the class are returned to normal. In addition, I'm instituting a kindness clause. Music theory can be frustrating and difficult. Students need to be supportive of themselves and each other by creating a sense of safety through kindness and patience. Water is fine, no juice or soda...we have carpets. NO GUM!

Daily Participation: 15 points per day

Students will receive 15 points per day for their attentiveness, and discussion feedback. Lack of participation and/or disruptive behavior will reduce points at the discretion of the instructor.

Tardiness (not being fully prepared and in place at the bell) will result in a loss of 5 pts. On the 3rd late arrival students will receive 0 pts. for that day. Any further tardiness will result in a phone call home. The same goes for excessive talking as well with the same loss of pts.

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.

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.

Quizzes: 25 points

Students will be quizzed regularly on a variety of topics including vocabulary words, listening exams, notation skills, dictation and reading and musical theory.

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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.

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**Students will be given two final exams throughout the year at the end of each semester. The Semester 2 exam is cumulative and taken from materials covered throughout the year. **

I have READ and UNDERSTAND this syllabus and agree to its terms:

Parent / Guardian Name

PRINT

Parent / Guardian Signature

Student Name

PRINT

Student Signature

DATE
