

**J. R. Masterman School Music Department**  
Advanced Placement  
Music Theory

**Course Overview**

The A.P. Music Theory class meets 5 periods a week. My mission is to not only prepare students for the A.P. Music test and for college music studies, but also to give students a deeper understanding and appreciation of the music that they hear, write, and perform.

**Objectives**

- Students will learn college level music theory in preparation for the A. P. Test.
- Students will develop aural theory skills.
- Students will learn how music is written.
- Students will learn to analyze musical scores.
- Students will develop sight-singing skills.
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**Procedure**

- Every class will begin with a solfege call & response exercise.
- Teacher will lecture on a new topic or review that of the previous day
- New Material will be applied
- Class will conclude with harmonic and melodic dictations played/written by teacher & students.
- Several classes a week will include Sight-Singing.
- Several classes will include repertoire analysis.
- Every other Friday will be “Friday Funday” in which we review everything learned so far this year using a variety of games/activities.

**Assessment: Tests 40%, Performance Based Learning 30%, Classwork 20%, Homework 10%**

Tests

- Students will be given short tests that cover the material learned in class
- Students will be given 4-part writing assignments
- Students will be given a mid-term
- There will be no final.
- The A.P. test will be given on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Homework

- Students may be given short exercises in the text to complete at home that reinforce the daily lessons.
- Students will be expected to practice Ear-Training daily. The teacher will provide web-sites and suggestions that will facilitate at-home practice

## Materials

- Spencer, Peter. *The Practice of Harmony*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2003.
- Manuscript paper/book
- Ottman, Robert. *Music for Sight-singing*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2004.
- Melcher, Robert A., Willard F. Warch, and Paul B. Mast. *Music for Study*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2004.
- Horvit, Koozin and Nelson. *Music for Ear Training*. Schirmer, 2000.
- Computer Resources – Musictheory.net, gmajormusictheory.org, teoria.com

## Course Content

- Clefs/Pitch Notation
- Major, Harmonic Minor, Melodic Minor, Natural Minor Scales
- Key Signatures & Scale Degrees
- Intervals
- Triads
- Four-Part Writing
  - Root Position, 1<sup>st</sup> inversion, and 2<sup>nd</sup> inversion
  - Cadences
  - Voice Leading
  - Non-Chord Tones
  - Diatonic 7<sup>th</sup> Chords
  - Secondary Dominants
- Realization of Figured Bass
- Harmonization of Melodies
- Modulation
- Modal Harmony & Artificial Scales
- Melodic Dictation/Identification
- Rhythmic Dictation/Identification
- Harmonic Dictation/Identification
- Harmonic & Melodic Analysis
- Transposition
- Musical Forms
- Terminology
- Active Listening
- Sight-Singing

**Tutoring/Support** – Students needing help can see me 3<sup>rd</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> period when I do not have class. Students are also welcome to email, text or call me.