



**MUSIC DEPARTMENT**  
**MATT KOZACEK, BAND DIRECTOR**

## Advanced Placement Music Theory Syllabus

### Course Overview

The AP Music Theory class meets four times a week. AP Music Theory is geared towards students who need it for career study as well as students who desire the enrichment that goes above and beyond what they learn in their band, orchestra or choir class. Students are expected to take the AP Music Theory Exam in May.

### Diversity Statement

All individuals have a right to an educational environment free from bias, prejudice and bigotry. As members of the Basha High School educational community, students are expected to refrain from participating in acts of harassment that are designed to demean another student's race, gender, ethnicity, religious preference, disability or sexual orientation.

### Course Objectives

The goal of this AP Music Theory course is that at the conclusion, students will be able to:

- Define basic musical terms and theoretical concepts
- Understand and construct scales (major, minor, chromatic, and modal)
- Understand and construct intervals and triads
- Audiate and sing scales, melodies, intervals and rhythms
- Sight sing conjunct and disjunct diatonic melodies in major and minor keys
- Construct compositions using basic rules that govern music composition while using good voice leading techniques
- Transpose compositions and melodies for different instruments
- Harmonically dictate rhythms and melodies that are played by different voices or instruments
- Compose a bass line for a given melody, implying appropriate harmony
- Successfully take the AP Music Theory Examination

### Text

#### Main Text:

Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. *Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000.

#### Supplemental Texts:

Benward, Bruce and Timothy Kolosick. *Ear Training: A Technique for Listening*. 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Ottman, Robert. *Music for Sight Singing*. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.; Prentice Hall, 2001.

### What are Advanced Placement (AP) Courses?

Every May the College Board administers AP tests so that colleges can decide whether incoming Freshmen should receive college credit for what they have learned in high school. AP courses are college level courses designed to prepare students for these tests. This AP theory course can save you tuition money, it can improve your chances of being accepted at the college of your choice, and it can give you a head start as a music major, possibly helping you to graduate early.

## Discipline

As a college level class, I expect college level discipline.

Profanity is strictly prohibited.

Students who are tardy will be required to conference with the instructor. After five tardies, students will receive a written referral and the office administration will determine their consequence.

**Failure to abide by classroom policies will result in a conference with the instructor, a detention, and potentially a referral to the administration.**

## Conference Period

Conference period will be on Thursday and Friday from 9:17 - 9:45. During this time students are only allowed out of the classroom if they have a pass. The library is not available during conference. Students should use this time to study or read.

## Grading

Colleges reviewing your transcripts understand that AP classes are more difficult than other classes. A "B" in an AP class is usually equivalent to an "A" in other classes.

### Homework, computer work and quizzes

There is not enough time during class to complete every assignment; do some of your work at home.

### Sight singing & Ear Training

This material will be supplemental to the text. You MUST sing for this class.

### Composition or arrangement due after the AP test

This will be a composition using the "common practice" harmonies learned in this course. You will turn in a Finale printout and an analysis, and you will have the piece played by live musicians.

The grading system will be based on total points per quarter factored a semester grade based on 40% for each quarter and 20% for each semester final exam. Items that will factor into the grades are:

	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Tests	A 90% - 100%
Quizzes	B 80% - 89%
Homework	C 70% - 79%
Projects	D 60% - 69%
Warm – ups	F 59% - below
Old AP Exams	

If you are absent, you will miss valuable information, so make every effort not to miss class. If you happen to be absent and that absence is excused, you will get the chance to make up the points by completing an assignment at the director's discretion. If the absence is unexcused, there will be no opportunity to make up the points missed.

## COURSE PLANNER

<b>Week</b>	<b>Objective</b>
Week 1	Chapter 1: Elements of Pitch
Week 2	Chapter 2: Elements of Rhythm
Week 3	Chapter 3: Introduction to Triads and Seventh Chords
Week 4	Chapter 4: Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys
Week 5	Review and Unit 1 Exam
Week 6	Chapter 5: Principles of Voice Leading
Week 7	Voice Leading Practice
Week 8	Voice Leading Practice
Week 9	Voice Leading Practice
Week 10	Chapter 6: Root Position Part Writing
FALL BREAK	
Week 11	Chapter 7: Harmonic Progression
Week 12	Chapter 7: Harmonic Progression; Realization of Roman Numeral Progression
Week 13	Chapter 8: Triads in First Inversion
Week 14	Chapter 9: Triads in Second Inversion
Week 15	Chapter 10: Cadences, Phrases and Periods
Week 16	Chapter 11: Non Chord Tones
Week 17	Chapter 12: Non Chord Tones 2
Week 18	Review and Unit 2 Exam
Week 19	Begin First Composition Project
Week 20	Continue Work on Composition Project
WINTER BREAK	
Week 21	Chapter 13: The V7 Chord
Week 22	Chapter 14: The II7 and VII7 Chords
Week 23	Chapter 15: Other Diatonic 7 <sup>th</sup> Chords
Week 24	Review and Unit 3 Exam
Week 25	Chapter 16: Secondary Functions 1
Week 26	Chapter 17: Secondary Functions 2
Week 27	Chapter 18: Modulations Using Diatonic Common Chords
Week 28	Chapter 19: Some Other Modulatory Techniques
Week 29	Chapter 20: Binary and Ternary Forms
SPRING BREAK	
Week 30	Review and Unit 4 Exam
Week 31	Begin work on composition final
Week 32	PRACTICE AP EXAM FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
Week 33	Review for AP Exam; work on composition final
Week 34	PRACTICE AP EXAM FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
Week 35	Review for AP Exam; work on composition final
Week 36	Review for AP Exam; work on composition final
Week 37	Monday, May 14 AP MUSIC THEORY EXAM; Composition performances
Week 38	Composition performances

This schedule is only approximate, as classes may move slower or faster from one year to another. Ear training and sight singing are incorporated on a weekly basis, appropriate to the unit being studied. As the course progresses, you will be analyzing music of various genres, identifying motives, examining the interaction of rhythmic and melodic material between voices, and completing harmonic analysis of the work. Some of this analysis will be written, and some will be auditory. Quizzes over all material are administered at the end of concepts or units, as needed.

Students are expected to participate actively in classroom discussions and demonstration each week. In addition to completing homework

**Electronic Resources**

- [www.makemusic.com](http://www.makemusic.com) - download Finale Notepad
- [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net)
- [www.blanksheetmusic.net](http://www.blanksheetmusic.net)
- [www.musiccards.net](http://www.musiccards.net)
- [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com)
- [www.emusictheory.com](http://www.emusictheory.com)

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Please sign and return this portion.

I have read the course requirements and expectations listed in the attached syllabus. By signing, I acknowledge that I have received all rules and consequences, as well as grading procedures and class requirements.

Parent/Guardian

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

AP MUSIC THEORY

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother/Guardian's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mother Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Father/Guardian's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Father Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Father Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_