

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VIPA 4630 AP Music Theory
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

Advanced Placement Music Theory is an integration of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition, history, style, and musicianship skills; dictation, listening skills, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony.

Curricular Mapping:

The primary purpose of this course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Previous studies required for this course are music ensembles and/or private music lessons. The course is designed to prepare a student for collegiate level music theory.

Course Objectives:

This course helps students gain competencies relating to;

1. Fundamental aural, analytical, and compositional skills using both listening and written exercises
2. Harmonization of a melody by selecting appropriate chords
3. Composing a musical bass line to provide two-voice counterpoint
4. Realization of figured-bass notation.
5. Melodic and Rhythmic Dictation using both listening and written exercises
6. Sight-singing exercises which progress in harmonic, rhythmic, and contour complexity
7. Transcribing using both listening and written exercises
8. Overall musicianship

Texts:

None

Prerequisites

The qualifying requirements include an interview and skills assessment given by the instructor on order to evaluate the student's ability to read and write musical notation. The prerequisite is

membership in a MVCS music ensemble. It is also assumed that the student has acquired (or is acquiring) at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument.

Course Outline:

- 1.0 The Renaissance and Baroque Periods
- 1.1 Late Renaissance Polyphony
- 1.2 Two-Voice Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint
- 1.3 The Fugue
- 1.4 Rhythmic Reading
- 1.5 Scale-Line Melodies: Simple Time
- 1.6 Ear Training: Rhythmic Dictation and Scale-Line Melodies
- 2.0 Chromatic harmony
- 2.1 Borrowed Chords
- 2.2 Neapolitan 6th Chords
- 2.3 Augmented 6th Chords
- 2.4 Intervals from the Tonic Triad, Major Keys: Simple Time
- 2.5 Intervals from the Tonic Triad, Major Keys Compound Time
- 2.6 Ear Training: Intervals
- 3.0 The Classical Period
- 3.1 Variation Technique
- 3.2 Sonata Form
- 3.3 Rondo Forms
- 3.4 Minor Keys; Intervals from the Tonic Triad: Simple and Compound
- 3.5 Intervals from the Dominant Triad: Major and Minor
- 3.6 Ear Training: Minor
- 4.0 Extended Chromatic Harmony
- 4.1 9th, 11th, and 13th Chords
- 4.2 Altered Dominants
- 4.3 Chromatic Mediants
- 4.4 The C Clefs: Alto and Tenor
- 4.5 Further Use of Diatonic Intervals
- 4.6 Ear Training
- 5.0 The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries
- 5.1 The Romantic Period (1825-1900)

- 5.2 The Post-Romantic, Impressionistic, and Related styles
- 5.3 The Contemporary Period (1910-1945)
- 5.4 Twelve-Tone technique
- 5.5 Music since 1945
- 5.6 Intervals from the Dominant Seventh Chord
- 5.7 Subdivision of the Beat
- 5.8 Chromatics
- 5.9 Ear Training

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Class Participation	10%	Quarter	50 %
Ear Training Homework	10%	Quarter	50 %
Final Exam	25%		
Notebook	25%		
Sight Singing	10%		
Syllabus Signature	5%		
Theory Homework	15%		

High School Standard Grading Policy: Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies:

The following class policies are non-negotiable. Please see the instructor if you have any concerns with your ability to follow these policies.

1. Attendance: Students are expected to be in class daily. If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to get the classwork and homework missed. You will have one day for every day you are out to make up your work- no exceptions.

2. Tardiness: Students are expected to be in their seats with their books out and all materials needed ready when the bell rings otherwise you will be marked “Tardy.”
3. Late work is not accepted for any reason.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student’s responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for the Students:

It is recommended that students bring ALL texts for this class to each class period as they may be used daily. It is important that your class binder is also in every class period.

Miscellaneous:

Binders will be collected and graded at random times without your prior knowledge. It is recommended that you keep your binder up to date and cleaned out weekly.

Binder Tabs must be labeled as follows:

1. Notes
2. Music Theory Homework
3. Sight-Singing “solfege”
4. Ear Training Assignments
5. Graded Work
6. Test & Quizzes

Tips for the Students:

This course moves at a fast pace. Getting behind can be detrimental to your achievement and may cause dismissal from the course. In order to score well on the AP Music Theory state exam you must complete the work through chapter 18. The state exam is optional for this course. You can only achieve a 5 if you take the test.