

St. Francis High School

MUTHE – Music Theory

Syllabus – Spring 2012

Instructor: Mr. Oestreich
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Course Description:

Music theory is a course designed to provide a beginning understanding of the basic concepts of music. The course is divided into two principle parts: written theory and ear training. In written theory students develop an understanding of musical concepts, understanding musical notation and practicing using musical notation. Students also need to develop their understanding of music as they hear it, which is why the course contains exercises in ear training. This will enable students to recognize sounds by their distance apart and how sounds fit within a tonal center. They will also practice transferring sound in their head to paper using correct notation.

Classes:

Classes are held every day during 5th period in the choir room (201).

Required Materials:

There is not a required textbook for this course. Students will be required to have the materials listed below and manuscript (music) paper, which will be provided. Students will also be spending time on the computers doing their work electronically. They will principally be using the following website: www.musictheory.net

In addition the following materials are required at every class period:

- Pencil with eraser
- 3-ring binder with pockets and loose-leaf paper (½" or 1")

Course Outline:

Written Theory:

- Basic materials of music
 - Pulse and meter
 - Notes and rests
- Basic Notation
 - Staves and clefs
 - Rhythm
- Time and Key Signatures
- Scales and chords
- Advanced notation

Ear Training:

- Identifying instruments
 - Strings
 - Woodwinds
 - Brass
 - Percussion
- Recognizing basic intervals
- Major/minor scales and chords
- Melodic dictation

General Expectations:

Students enrolled in classes at St. Francis High School are expected to:

- Come to class on time and prepared to engage in the learning process
- Complete all assignments to the best of their ability
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect at all times
- Ask for help or clarification when needed

*All other rules and regulations as noted in the SFHS Student Agenda and as set out by each class and instructor apply.

Website:

All class work (assignments, quizzes, tests, etc.) are posted online.

<http://www.stfrancisschools.org/faculty/poestre/calendar.cfm>

Grading:

Grading in Music Theory is based on a point system. The number of points that students earn will determine their grade. The grading areas and respective weights are listed below. Students will earn points in each of the areas.

Formal Assessments: 30%

Quizzes

Tests

Final Exam: 20%

Homework: 30%

Worksheets

Papers

Ear training exercises

Attendance/Behavior: 20%

Daily attendance

Having all required materials

Following all classroom expectations

Classroom participation

Schedule

Before and after school I run a lesson program with my students that are in the band and choir classes. That means that for at least the 15 minutes preceding and following the school day I will be busy with them. If you need to do make-up work or come in for extra time you will need to plan that ahead of time with me.

Extra Credit:

Opportunities for extra credit will be available throughout the semester. They will apply to one specific grading area. Activities will have a different amount of points that can be earned. Since there is no formal system for extra credit, requests for extra credit opportunities (including coming up with ideas for earning extra credit) will be welcome at any time during the semester. All quizzes may be corrected and turned back in for additional points. Points will be awarded when the student takes a redemption quiz (a second quiz designed specifically for each student that only contains questions similar to the ones that he/she got wrong on the first quiz; the redemption quiz itself is not graded).