

MUSIC THEORY & APPRECIATION - COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course weaves the history of classical music and the foundations of music theory together in a musical adventure that starts in the Middle Ages and continues into today's classical music. Students will study foundational music theory in a framework of music history, with emphasis on listening to classical masterpieces from all time periods, performing music theory drills on state-of-the-art software and learning how the two are connected.

PREREQUISITE

This course is recommended for students who already have basic music reading skills (i.e. they have taken piano or other instrumental lessons for at least one year).

TIME REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

- Live Class Sessions: Tuesday/Thursday – 12:00 to 12:50PM CST
- Teacher Talk – Thursdays at 7:00 to 7:30PM CST
 - This is time for students to come to me with questions concerning assignments. If your parents need to contact me for any reason, please have them email me at the address listed in the Faculty section below, as this time is for students only.

Outside of these two live sessions, students are expected to put in **up to five hours per week** on the content in Canvas. The distribution of this time will vary based on the course and delivery method, but could include web-based activities, research, writing papers, projects and reports, reading the text and/or additional articles, music theory drill, group projects preparation, or study time.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

TEXTBOOKS

- *Exploring Theory with Practica Musica* (2014) 4th Ed.
 - Jeffrey Evans
 - This e-textbook is located online and can be found at the [Ars-Nova website](#).
- *Understanding Music: Past and Present*
 - N. Alan Clark; Thomas Heflin; Jeffrey Kluball; Elizabeth Kramer
 - ISBN: 978-1-940771-33-5
 - This textbook is offered for free through a Creative Commons license and is located on Canvas under STUDENT RESOURCES=>Textbooks

SOFTWARE & HARDWARE

PRACTICA MUSICA 7 – STUDENT EDITION

- This software can be downloaded from the [Ars-Nova website](#).
- Choose the Student/Single-User Download which includes the e-textbook.
- Follow the directions given on Canvas under “Practica Musica” to purchase and set up your software correctly. If you don't do this, your work will not be graded and you will receive a zero!

OTHER REQUIRED SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE

- Freedom Project Academy provides guidelines for your [Tech & Equipment](#) on their website. These are required for all students. Failure to set up your equipment as indicated will not be accepted as a reasonable excuse for missed deadlines, homework, etc.

FACULTY

Dr. Kierstin Bible, D.M.A.



COURSE CURRICULUM

LEARNING OUTCOMES

MUSIC THEORY

- Students will demonstrate a fundamental working knowledge of the basic elements of music, including: pitch notation, time and meter signatures, note and rest values, intervals, major and minor scales and triads, and Roman Numeral analysis.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

- Students will recognize classical music in their everyday lives.
- Student will verbally state which music history period(s) they prefer and give supporting reasons.
- Student will verbally state which music history period(s) they do not prefer and give supporting reasons.

MUSIC LISTENING/RECOGNITION

- Students will correctly identify listening music examples from each time period.
- Students will compare music examples from each time period.
- Students will list the characteristics of each music time period.
- Students will select one of several possible time periods for an unfamiliar piece of music based on the characteristics of those time periods and will defend that selection in written form.

COURSE UNITS & MODULES

INTRODUCTION TO COURSE

- COURSE INTRODUCTION
- A DAY IN THE LIFE
- CANVAS TOUR

UNIT 1 - ELEMENTS OF MUSIC & INTRODUCTION TO THE ORCHESTRA

- MUSICAL TEXTURE
- DYNAMICS & TONE COLOR
- ACOUSTICS OF SOUND
- INTRODUCTION TO THE ORCHESTRA

UNIT 2 – THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE ORCHESTRA

- EXPLORING STRING INSTRUMENTS
- EXPLORING KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS
- EXPLORING WOODWINDS
- EXPLORING BRASS INSTRUMENTS
- EXPLORING PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS
- VOICE CLASSIFICATION

UNIT 3 – THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC THEORY PART 1/THE MIDDLE AGES

- PITCH
- INTRODUCTION TO RHYTHM
- INTRODUCTION TO METER
- THE MIDDLE AGES

UNIT 4 – THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC THEORY PART 2/THE RENAISSANCE

- SIMPLE METER
- COMPOUND METER
- MELODY
- THE RENAISSANCE

UNIT 5 – FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC THEORY – PART 3 /THE BAROQUE PERIOD

- SHARPS, FLATS AND NATURALS
- MAJOR SCALES/MAJOR KEYS
- THE BAROQUE PERIOD

UNIT 6 – FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC THEORY – PART 4

- MINOR SCALES/MINOR KEYS
- INTERVALS
- TRIADS & ROMAN NUMERAL ANALYSIS

UNIT 7 –THE CLASSICAL PERIOD

- SONATA FORM
- THE CLASSICAL PERIOD

UNIT 8 – BEETHOVEN

- EARLY PERIOD
- MIDDLE PERIOD
- LATE PERIOD

UNIT 9 – THE ROMANTIC PERIOD

- EARLY ROMANTICISM
- THE ROMANTIC PERIOD
- ROMANTIC OPERA
- IMPRESSIONISM

UNIT 9 – “MODERN” CLASSICAL MUSIC & FILM MUSIC

- EARLY 20TH CENTURY
- LATE 20TH AND EARLY 21ST CENTURY
- FILM/TELEVISION MUSIC

ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES**LIVE CLASS**

Twice per week I will teach live (streaming) classes via Adobe Connect. Each class contains an interactive lecture that pulls together the assigned work (reading, videos, discussion boards, etc.). Be sure to follow the Assignment Sheets and do any required work in advanced of each lecture.

Students who regularly miss lectures may be locked out of Canvas until the parent can be notified. If a student needs to miss a lecture, please notify Dr. Bible through Canvas email. The student will be required to watch the recording of the lecture.

READING QUIZZES

There will be various reading assignments throughout the school year, including excerpts from the textbook (which is provided for free in Canvas) and online articles. Each reading assignment will be followed by a short quiz in Canvas to ensure you have read and absorbed the materials.

VIDEOS ON EDPUZZLE

Throughout the semester you will be watching assigned videos on *EdPuzzle*, a website that allows me to embed quizzes inside YouTube videos. Click on the link below to sign up:

- [Join Music Theory & Appreciation on EdPuzzle](#)

These videos will often be assigned to prepare you for the live class lectures, so please follow the Assignment Sheets and watch the videos by the due date.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Throughout the school year you will be expected to complete written assignments. There are three different kinds of assignments: Formal Paper, Informal Essay and Discussion Board.

FORMAL PAPER

Formal Papers will require you to pull specific material together and discuss it in writing. These papers will be graded using rubrics to guide you in writing them. You will be graded on spelling, grammar and the logical flow of ideas, so be sure to give yourself plenty of time to prepare for and complete these papers.

INFORMAL ESSAY

Informal Essays are not graded using a rubric. Although spelling and grammar are important, these essays are more conversational in tone.

DISCUSSION BOARD

The Discussion Board is a very important part of this course. Directions and guidelines will vary for each discussion, so it is imperative that you read them for each discussion. All discussions will require you to write an original post and then reply to one or two classmates. Although discussions may be in a conversational tone, please refrain from using text-speak. Follow the directions, pay attention to the Assignment Sheets and be sure to note when your original post is due! Discussion Board assignments are located in the “Discussions” section of Canvas. **DUE TO THE INTERACTIVE NATURE OF THE DISCUSSION BOARD, NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. IN THE CASE OF AN EXCUSED ABSENCE, THE PARENT CAN REQUEST AN ALTERNATE ASSIGNMENT TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE DISCUSSION.**

PRACTICA MUSICA

Practice Music is a software that allows students to drill various concepts until they reach a certain level of mastery. After the due date, Dr. Bible will log in to the ars-nova website and note which students have successfully completed the exercises.

UNIT QUIZZES

For each unit there will usually be at least one TIMED online quiz. These quizzes may contain content questions (multiple choice, true-false, matching) or listening concept questions (identify a musical concept displayed in the music example). These quizzes will be located in the “Quizzes” section of Canvas.

LISTENING QUIZZES

For many of the units there will be a TIMED Listening Quiz designed to test your recognition of the music shared during the unit. Listening lists will be listed in Canvas as a study aid. Listening quizzes will be “drop the needle” which is an old-fashioned way of saying that the portion for the quiz will not be the opening measures of the music. This will

require you to listen to each piece many times through and learn to recognize the entire thing. Listening Quizzes are located in the “Quizzes” section of Canvas.

STREAMING LISTENING PROJECT

This listening project will cover seven days of guided listening throughout the school year, via Spotify. You will be listening to music from each time period we study in class. For each one you must spend one full day with the music continuously streaming and then you will share your experience in the discussion board.

EXTRA CREDIT

There will be several opportunities for extra credit throughout the school year.

ASSIGNMENT GROUP WEIGHTS

- 10% - READING QUIZZES
- 10% - EDPUZZLE VIDEO QUIZZES
- 30% - WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS
- 5% - PRACTICA MUSICA ASSIGNMENTS
- 15% - UNIT & LISTENING QUIZZES
- 30% - STREAMING LISTENING PROJECT

GRADING POLICY

Percentage	Grade
93-100% (of possible) points	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
60-63%	D-
0-59.9%	F

YOU CAN CHECK ON YOUR CURRENT GRADE AT ANY TIME BY LOOKING AT THE “MY GRADES” SECTION OF CANVAS.

OTHER POLICIES

ATTENDANCE POLICY (FROM THE FPA HANDBOOK)

The structure provided by FPA is entirely for the benefit of the student. Attending classes at scheduled times and adhering to due dates add personal responsibility to the many benefits of enrolling in FPA. Flexibility is equally as important to home school families, and for this reason we record each class and make it available almost immediately after class.

There is no penalty for not attending a live class. Teachers, however, may implement a method to determine that a recorded class is watched following an absence. Students are responsible for any assignment completed in class and all material covered in class.

Parent must notify the teacher or FPA administration if a student will miss class. After two unexcused absences (defined as no parental notification of an absence), the student's account will be frozen until the parent contacts the teacher.

If a schedule conflict prevents a student from regularly attending class, one notification by the parent at the beginning of the course is sufficient.

FPA considers attendance a key to success. Although grades are not directly impacted by attendance, instructors do note attendance for the purpose of discussing a student's progress.

Students are expected to be engaged in class and actively participate. This includes being ready to respond when called upon. If a student does not respond when called on by the teacher or has obviously not been attentive, he/she may be removed from class. Upon the second removal, the student's account will be frozen until a parent-teacher conference has taken place.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

The Canvas “Send Email” tool allows safe and direct communication between student and teacher. Instructors are permitted to communicate with students **ONLY** through the Canvas email.

LATE WORK

Extensions - FPA policy states that teachers will allow each student two extensions per semester on homework or assignments. Students may not use these two extensions to delay scheduled quizzes or exams, or long-term projects including papers. Extensions may not carry over from semester to semester—students receive two per semester: no more, no less.

These two allowable extensions per semester are to be no longer than one week each and must be requested by a parent no later than the original due date. The four Act of God extensions (see below) remain in effect, and these two extensions are in addition to those. Travel Extensions remain the same.

Parents must request these extensions and they apply to **ONE** assignment, not all assignments a subject area may include for one day. For example, English students may be assigned grammar and writing assignments on a particular day. An extension could be granted for one or the other but would not cover both.

Act of God Extensions - Extensions may be offered due to the following Acts of God: weather disasters, technology, family emergencies such as deaths, funerals, and illness.

Travel Extensions - Extended travel throughout the school year is possible for our students, although not encouraged. One due date deadline extension per semester is permitted if the Student Development Director is notified at least two weeks in advance about the dates of scheduled travel. Dates of travel should include not just the school days your student will miss, but also any Friday, Saturday, and/or Sunday that you will be away, so that the Student Development Director can set an appropriate date for the extension. All work will need to be submitted within one week of returning from travel.

Any other travel, activity, or situation that prevents class attendance or submission of schoolwork by the due date assigned by the teacher becomes the responsibility of the student and parent. Any assignments not completed prior to travel or while traveling will not receive an extension even if for technology problems experienced while traveling. No extra due date extensions will be made for any circumstance except for these four valid reasons: technical problems, acts of nature, illness, or family emergencies. For more details, please see fpeusa.org/student-info/student-expectations.

Parents should notify the teacher or FPA administration about student illness, technology problems, or family emergencies either by phone or email within 24 hours to receive an extension for due dates. If an act of nature prevents notification within 24 hours (such as loss of power), parents need to contact the teacher or FPA administration as soon as possible after the event to receive extensions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- **RESOURCES FOR THE STUDENT**

Please review the information in the Academic Integrity page on Canvas to understand exactly what constitutes plagiarism. Often this can be reduced to not understanding the different types of plagiarism, including improper paraphrasing and even self-plagiarism!

- **SCHOOL POLICY CONCERNING ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (FROM THE FPA HANDBOOK)**

Upholding academic integrity is of utmost importance to Freedom Project Academy. Instances of plagiarism are taken very seriously. Claiming another's work as one's own is a major violation of academic integrity. We realize in an online environment the temptation to plagiarize is strong, and the ease with which it can be done makes it more enticing. When an instructor finds that a student has plagiarized, the instructor has the discretion of failing the student on the assignment and/or the class. The instructor's decision on these issues is final. The decision to expel the student for plagiarism (or repeated instances of plagiarism) belongs to FPA administration.

Honesty in test taking is of equal importance. Parents must partner with instructors to assure the integrity of test scores by monitoring test taking, not making answer keys available to students, or allowing students to use outside resources for completing their tests. Consequences for cheating are at the discretion of the instructor.

Consequences may include failure of the test or failure of the class. The instructor's decision on these issues is final. The decision to expel the student for cheating (or repeated instances of cheating) belongs to FPA administration. Elementary parents should not intervene in their students' tests or correct the tests before submission. However, parents are encouraged to help their students with homework, but not complete it for them. Parents are encouraged to attend classes with their students, but not supply answers when the child is called upon to answer during class.

The following provides a non-exhaustive list of types of cheating and plagiarism:

FPA considers cheating to be:

- Using any portion of another student's work for any assignment, project, quiz, or test.
- Using an answer key or Solution Manual to complete any assignment, project, quiz, or test.
- Using any outside resources – Internet, books, or people - to obtain an answer when taking a quiz or test.
- Having someone else complete any assignment for the student to whom it is assigned.

FPA defines plagiarism to be:

- Using another's exact words in any circumstance without giving credit to that person.
- Claiming work from an outside resource as one's own by failing to cite that resource.
- Using any material from a resource to answer a question on a quiz or a test.
- Copying and pasting or typing information from sources on the Internet without citing the source.