

AP Music Theory Expectations

Saratoga High School

AP Policy for AP Music Theory

All students should experience a rigorous academic program that prepares them for their post-high school goals. The college preparatory curriculum in all subject areas meets that need, while honors and advanced placement courses have provided additional challenges for highly motivated and skilled students in all academic departments. **Students who enroll in an honors or advanced placement course do so understanding that they will have to meet even higher standards of performance than in the college-preparatory curriculum.**

- Honors and advanced placement courses require significantly more homework, sometimes more than twice as much work, as the corresponding college preparatory class.
- Honors and advanced placement courses require a higher level of performance in the quality of student work to earn the same grade as in the corresponding college preparatory course.
- Honors and advanced placement courses require more student independence and responsibility in the completion of required work. These courses move through the curriculum at a faster pace.
- A student may drop an advanced placement class through the seventh week of the first semester. A drop after seven weeks is reflected as a Withdrawal Fail (WF) on the official transcript.

AP Student Expectations

The opportunity to be in an advanced placement class carries with it certain assumptions about the capabilities and maturity of high school students who will now be doing college level work.

Students are expected:

- To be independent learners, willing to read, learn, ask questions of the text, pursue outside reading and research, integrate and discuss material from diverse sources.
- To be primarily motivated by an appreciation for the subject and secondarily by GPA or the AP exam.
- To spend, on average, approximately one hour of outside study for each AP class per school day.
- To always attend class, take tests, and turn in assignments on time.

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- To accept that enrollment in an AP course does not guarantee an A or B grade; there is a possibility of receiving a C or lower grade.
- To accept gracefully assignments, suggestions, and coaching from the teacher.

Contract for AP Music Theory

Students who enroll in an honors or advanced placement course and their parent/guardian must agree to the following conditions before signing the **Schedule of Courses Signature Page** given to each student:

- I recognize that I have to demonstrate more independence and responsibility plus meet even higher standards of performance in any honors or advanced placement course than students in college preparatory courses to earn the same grade. College preparatory classes typically require 20-45 minutes homework nightly. Advanced placement courses may require as much as 5-7 hours of homework weekly.
- I agree to uphold Saratoga High School's academic integrity policy. I understand that I may be dropped from any honors or advanced placement class with a failing grade pursuant to a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy if I plagiarize, cheat, or submit work other than that which I personally have done.
- I understand that a California State University and University of California approved honors or advanced placement class receives an extra GPA point on the weighted GPA. An extra point is not calculated on the unweighted GPA.