

Music Theory Syllabus

Caleb Howard, Instructor

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Course Description:

Music Theory is a course designed for both the college bound music major, to help that student prepare for the college theory placement exams, and any high school student who is interested in learning more about music, on a detailed level. Music Theory will require an entire semester to complete and will earn the student one (1) fine arts credit, upon successful completion of the course. Prior music reading experience is recommended. Topics covered include materials of music, including basic elements through triad, seventh chords and non-chord tones. Exercise in writing and analysis of music, with emphasis on Common Practice Period music. Sight-singing and ear training will also comprise a large portion of this course.

Required Materials: Notebook (Listening Journal)

Paper

Pencil

School Issued Chromebook

Course Objectives: In accordance with TN state music education standards 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, and 9.0, students will listen to, analyze, and describe music, evaluate music and music performances, understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts, and understand music in relation to history and culture.

Grading: Grades will be determined by the following:

Notebook Checks

Unit Tests/Projects

Quizzes (pop and announced)

Participation Points

Tennessee Uniform Grading Scale

90% - 100% = A

80% - 89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

59% and Below = F

Make – up/Late Work: Make up work will be given for any excused absence. The student will have the same number of days missed to retrieve and complete any assignments missed during the absence, without penalty. (i.e. If a student is absent for 2 days, they will have 2 days to complete all missed work. Special arrangements will be made for extended absences). Late work will be accepted with 10 points deducted for each day the assignment is late. *LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER ONE WEEK. IT IS THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK FOR THEIR MAKE UP WORK.*

Classroom Expectations: Each student is expected to arrive to class on time and with ALL materials. In accordance with the Claiborne High School student handbook, excessive/extreme tardiness, as well as coming to class unprepared, is viewed as a discipline matter and will be treated as such. Any student who arrives after the final bell will be marked tardy. No food or drink (except bottled water) will be allowed in the class. Electronic devices (cell phones, mp3 players, etc.), as well as headphones, are not allowed in class. Violation of these rules will be dealt with in accordance with the Claiborne High School student handbook.

Projects: There will be a capstone project which will be presented at the end of the semester. More information on this project will be presented later in the semester.

Google Classroom: In addition to class work, students will be expected to log into Google Classroom periodically throughout the semester. In the event of extenuating circumstances, class may be continued in this virtual format.

Remind: The teacher will use the Remind texting platform to relay information throughout the semester. You should be automatically enrolled in the class, via the information in the ASPEN portal.

Teacher/Student/Parent Communication: When communicating with the teacher, please use the email or phone number listed above or the Remind platform. Should you need to meet with the teacher, contact them to set up an appointment. Office hours are Monday - Friday 10:15am to 11:30am. If you need a time outside these hours, please email or call to make special arrangements. Email, voice mail, and Remind are checked between the hours of 8:00AM - 3:00PM, Monday through Friday. Any communication made after 3:00PM will be received the next day. Every effort will be made to respond to communication within 24 hours, however, there may be times when this is not possible. Communication made after 3:00PM on Friday or on the weekends, will receive a response the next school day.

This syllabus is subject to change. The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus, as deemed necessary, without prior notification. Please keep a copy of this syllabus for your records.

Music Theory Syllabus Confirmation

I understand and agree to abide by the Claiborne High School Music Theory Syllabus for the Spring 2026 semester. I understand that I am responsible for knowing the rules of Mr. Howard's classroom and the expectations of the Music Theory class. I understand that if I do not sign and return this form that I may be ineligible to participate in the class.

Student's Printed Name

Student's Signature

Date

I understand and agree that my student will abide by the Claiborne High School Music Theory Syllabus for the Spring 2026 semester. I understand that my student is responsible for knowing the rules of Mr. Howard's classroom and the expectations of the Music Theory class. I understand that if I do not sign and return this form that my student may be ineligible to participate in the class.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date