



AP MUSIC THEORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Google Classroom Code: [ktx5nriy](#)

Welcome to AP Music Theory!

I congratulate you on signing up for one of the most rewarding and challenging classes you will take as a person with a passion for music. Please take the time to read all of the information below so that you understand the demands of the course.

Today, you will receive your book for summer work. "Alfred Essentials of Music Theory". Some of this material will feel like review, but use this review to your advantage to further cement these critical concepts, as you will need your music fundamentals to be very strong. This book will need to be completed by the first day of school. Well, ALMOST the entire book. After you complete page 101, you may stop. If you would like to give the end of the book a try, you may do so.

I will be collecting your books on the first day. This will be your first **100 point summative grade.**

The links to the AUDIO CLIPS you need for EAR TRAINING SECTIONS can be found on our google classroom page. You will most likely need to download the zipfile to your computer. The numbers on each track correspond to the Track Number of the exercise in the book.

Helpful videos for many of the lessons are found at the end of this letter.

Please feel free to contact me via email any time during the summer if you have any questions or just want to discuss something. I will be hosting two ZOOM meetings to check in with everyone and for people to ask questions, so as you work through the book, note anything that you would like to discuss. These two check ins are to eliminate the inevitable "I didn't understand this on page 20 so I couldn't go on". This will not be an acceptable excuse not to complete the work.

You will be expected to take a theory fundamentals test on the first day of class. You cannot cram for this test. Just work on the book. This will be your second grade, but will be a **50 point formative.** The completion of the theory book will prepare you for this test, as well as utilizing these websites:

[musictheory.net](#)

Go to the **EXERCISES** section and start with STAFF IDENTIFICATION to get your speed up on identifying notes in both clefs. When you get good at those, move on to STAFF CONSTRUCTION, and then move on to the EAR TRAINING. Everything you work on will benefit you.

[teoria.com](#) More for ear training. Great exercises.

Sight Reading Factory will give you practice in sight singing, which we do everyday (including the first day) If you are not comfortable singing, or singing alone, you will need to get comfortable VERY QUICKLY.

There is a large section of the exam that has you doing just that,

[sightreadingfactory.com](#)

Go to the three lines on the top right and choose "rhythm only" if you want to do rhythm only practice, or choose "voice family" and your voice part. Choose your level (1 is the easiest) and sing away. We will go over this on move-up day.

Explore these resources as they will really help you. A few minutes a day will make all the difference. So instead of 15 minutes on Instagram before bed, DO THIS. Make it a routine for your day.

I also like "The Perfect Ear" app. It makes ear training like a game.

The Course:

Advanced Placement courses are presented on a college level using college level textbooks. We will be using the textbook "A Musicians Guide to Theory and Analysis", as well as Barron's AP MUSIC THEORY Workbook which you will receive the first day of class. AP Music Theory is similar to the first level of college music theory, and develops both theoretical and aural skills. Please come prepared to work hard, to have days when you may feel you really don't understand a concept, and rejoice when you eventually grasp that concept, because YOU WILL.

I look forward to having a wonderful year with you all and being a part of your journey to further understanding the music all around you. Do not be afraid to reach out over the summer any time.

Mrs. Drew
mdrew@westex.org

Helpful Videos to support the Alfred Text

[Tetrachords](#) (Lesson 26 page 43)

[MAJOR Scales](#) (Lesson 27/28 pgs. 44-45)

[MINOR Scales](#) (Lesson 56 pg. 90)

[Key Signatures](#) (Lesson 29 pg. 46-47)

[Intervals](#) (Lesson 33 pg. 52, Lesson 35-37 pg. 56-58)

[Circle of Fifths](#) (Lesson 34 pg. 53)

[Intervals in Popular Music](#)

[Triads in MAJOR KEYS](#) Lesson 47-48 pg. 74-75)

[Triads in MINOR KEYS](#) (Natural, Harmonic and Melodic) (Lesson 58 pg. 92)

[Dominant 7th Chords](#) (Lesson 50 pg. 77)

[Figured Bass](#) (Lesson 54 pg. 86)

[Modes](#) (Lesson 62 page 98)