

# Music Theory Course Syllabus

Westside HS

2024-2025

Ms. Sturm

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## Class Description:

This course is an introduction to music. As we learn new topics, we will continue to build upon them until the end of the year. It is important that you complete all assignments and activities, as they will be tools that prepare you for the final exams.

## Materials:

Students will need to provide the following materials:

- 1” Binder
- 5 Count Tab Dividers
- Notebook paper (Loose-leaf)
- Pencils \*\*No pens, only pencils! \*\*
- Eraser

I can provide the students with staff/manuscript paper; however, if you are able to supply your own, that would be great!

## Textbooks:

The following textbooks will be available in the classroom for student use:

1. Cole, Samuel W., and Leo R. Lewis. *Melodia: A Course in Sight-Singing Solfeggio*. Pennsylvania: Oliver Ditson Company.

## Grading:

30%- Minor Grades (Homework, Daily Assignments, Quizzes, Binder Checks)

70%- Major Grades (Tests, Projects)

## Late Work Policy:

1 Day Late= -5 Points

2-5 Days Late= -10 Points

More than 5 Days (1 school week) Late= Zero

\*\*If a student is absent, there will be adjustments made.\*\*

**Tutorials:**

Tuesdays during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of lunch AND/OR Thursdays after school.

Please let me know ahead of time. During the school day, I am likely in the band hall (M102) or my office (M116), which is inside the band hall.

**Major Grade Retakes:**

If a student receives below a 70 on a MAJOR GRADE, they have a chance to retake the assignment for UP TO a 70. In order to do this, the student must let me know that they would like to retake the assignment and attend at least one tutorial session to review the missed material before attending another tutorial session to complete the retake.

**Electronics Policy:**

ALL electronic devices are expected to be on silent and put away during class time. This includes phones, tablets, headphones/earbuds, etc.

Laptops: Students are expected to have their charged laptop with them every day. Laptops are expected to remain put away until students are asked to use them

**Classroom Expectation:**

During the first and last 15 minutes of class, students will not be allowed to leave the classroom, unless there is a special circumstance.

Students are expected to arrive on time. Any students who arrive after the bell will be expected to bring a tardy pass.

No food or drink is allowed in the music theory classroom, except for water.

### **What will you learn?**

- Pitch Notation
- Rhythmic Values
- Half Steps and Whole Steps
- Major Scales and Scale Degrees
- Major Keys and Key Signatures
- Simple and Compound Beat Division
- Meter and Time Signature
- Rhythmic Patterns
- Tempo
- Dynamics and Articulation
- Minor Scales: Natural, Harmonic, Melodic
- Key Relationships: Parallel, Relative, Closely Related, and Distantly Related Keys
- Other Scales: Chromatic and Whole-Tone
- Interval Size and Quality
- Triad and Chord Qualities
- Diatonic Chords and Roman Numerals
- Chord Inversions and Figures
- Seventh Chords
- Seventh Chord Inversions and Figures

\*\*During the year, there will be various units and projects and units included, such as a piano unit and a composer research project.\*\*