

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Senior High School

December 17, 2002

Department: Visual and Performing Arts

Course Title: Music Theory

Course Number:

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Semester Hours: 10

Prerequisite: Knowledge of the keyboard or other instrument or permission of the instructor.

Course Description: This is a one-semester or one-year upper level music class for those who are interested in pursuing the study of music and its elements. This course will explore the form and structure of music and the importance of understanding these basic building blocks. It develops the Visual and Performing Arts Standards by developing and expanding musical expression, aesthetic judgements, connections in society, as well as providing a greater understanding of music from various classical periods, composers, and cultures.

I. Standards

- A. Standard 1 - Artistic Perception: Students demonstrate musical skills, analyze music, process aural information and describe music using the terminology of music. Students read, notate, and respond to sensory information through the language and skills unique to music.

The students will:

1. Read a music score and describe how the elements of music are used.
2. Transcribe simple songs and melody into melodic and rhythmic notation when presented aurally (level of difficulty: 3; scale: 1-6) in a various musical forms.
3. Sight-read music accurately and expressively (level of difficulty: 3; scale: 1-6).

4. Analyze and describe significant musical events perceived and remembered in a given aural example of various musical setting.
5. Analyze and describe the use of musical elements in various musical works that makes them unique, interesting, and expressive.

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6. Compare and contrast the use of form, both past and present, in a varied repertoire of music from diverse musical genres, styles, and cultures.

- B. Standard 2 - Creative Expression: Students apply specific small ensemble musical skills in performing, creating, and participating in a varied repertoire of music from classical and contemporary periods.

The students will:

1. Perform on the piano, or another instrument a repertoire of musical literature representing various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, technical accuracy, tone quality, and articulation, by oneself and in small ensembles (level of difficulty: 5; scale: 1-6).
2. Perform music with one performer for each part (level of difficulty: 5; scale: 1-6).
3. Compose music for small ensembles in distinct styles and various classical periods (classical, romantic, baroque).
4. Improvise original melodies over given chord progressions

- C. Standard 3 - Historical and Cultural Context: Students analyze the role of music in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting cultural diversity as it relates to music, musicians, and composers.

The students will:

1. Analyze how the roles of musicians and composers have changed or remained the same throughout the history of music.
2. Identify uses of music elements in non-traditional classical music. (mixed meters, atonality, serialism)
3. Compare and contrast the social function of a variety of classical music forms in various cultures and time periods.

4. Perform music from a variety of cultures and classical periods.
5. Compare and contrast musical instruments from a variety of cultures and historical periods.
6. Compare and contrast classical musical styles within various popular genres in North America and South America
7. Analyze the stylistic features of a given musical work that define its aesthetic traditions and its historical or cultural context.

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8. Compare and contrast musical genres or styles that show the influence of two or more cultural traditions.

- D. Standard 4 - Aesthetic Valuing: Students critically assess and derive meaning from works of music and the performance of musicians in a cultural context according to the elements of music, aesthetic qualities, and human responses.

The students will:

1. Compare and contrast how a composer's intentions result in a work of music and how that music is used.
2. Analyze and explain how and why people in a particular culture use and respond to specific musical works from their own culture.
3. Compare and contrast the musical means used to create images or evoke feelings and emotions in works of music from various cultures.

- E. Standard 5- Connections Relationships, and Applications: Students apply what they learn in music across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They learn about careers in and related to music.

The students will:

1. Explain ways in which the principles and subject matter of classical music and various disciplines outside the arts are interrelated.

2. Analyze the process for performing, arranging, underscoring, and composing classical, jazz, popular, and contemporary music for film and video productions.
3. Identify and explain the various factors involved in pursuing a music career as a performer, composer, producer, or many other music related professions.

## II. Sample Assessments

- A. Performance - formal and informal
- B. Quizzes on theory, scales, harmony, composition technique, music selections, and music history
- C. Ongoing assessment of student performance and participation
- D. Self reflections - composition logs
- E. Written concert evaluations

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## III. Topics of Study / Suggested Time Distribution

- A. Critical analysis of music, using the vocabulary and language of music. 10%
  1. Musical materials of different pieces in the same genre or style.
  2. Specific music events within aural examples.
  3. Specific musical events by memory within aural examples and apply them musical events in other musical works.
- B. Reading and notation of music. 10%
  1. Accurate and expressive sight-reading
  2. Transpositions
  3. Clefs
  4. Standard notational symbols
  5. Elements of Music in music scores and parts

- C. Performance on instruments with a varied repertoire of music. 5%
1. Knowledge of various musical repertoire
  2. Expressive and technical accurate performance
  3. Memorized music
  4. Western and non-western literature
- D. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments. 5%
1. Harmonize stylistically appropriate parts
  2. Melodic embellishments
  3. Modal, atonal, and tonal patterns
  4. Original melodies in a constant style, meter, and tonality
- E. Compose and arrange music. 30%
1. Create original compositions
  2. Tension and release
  3. Imaginative and technical skill in applying the principles of composition
  4. Cultural resources used as influence
  5. Electronic media
- F. Knowledge and skills necessary to understand and perform music from all parts of the world. 10%
1. Elements of music from diverse genres and cultures
  2. Social functions as a result of various musical forms
  3. Microtonal and tonal styles
  4. Analyze variety of cultural musical forms

- G. Knowledge and understanding of the relationship of classical music to history and culture. 10%
1. Performances of music from diverse genres and cultures
  2. Performances with appropriate and accurate expression and technical acuity according to the diverse culture of the music
  3. Appropriate expression for work performed dependent upon culture
- H. Knowledge, skill, and understanding to make critical judgements about and determine the quality of music experiences and performances. 10%
1. Evaluate aesthetic quality of music
  2. Formal classical criteria compared with criteria developed for evaluation of musical works from a variety of cultures
  3. Criteria in their personal choices in listening and performing
  4. Constructive suggestions for improvement based on criteria and style of music
  5. Musical means used to evoke feelings and emotions evaluated in musical works
- I. Making Connections 10%
1. Appropriate audio tapes, video, CD, CD ROM, DVD, computer programs for the teacher and student
  2. Careers in music
  3. Music as a lifelong learning and experience
  4. Exploring and relating music to other subject areas, such as English/language arts, history/social studies, science, math, the other arts/disciplines, etc.
  5. Music in film, video, radio, and television
  6. Time management skills gained by practising and setting schedules

- A. Project based learning: practising music for concerts, researching composers, compose music for performance, etc
- B. Group and individual work in sectionals, collaborations, and solos
- C. Performance of student work
- D. Rehearsal on musical and technical concepts, preparation for performance
- E. Readings
- F. Lecture
- G. Library/Internet research
- H. Videos, tapes, CD's, CD ROM, DVD
- I. Festivals - evaluations by qualified outside music educators
- J. Modeling of desired sounds, phrasings, and musical concepts

V. Resource Materials

- A. Adopted Texts - none
- B. Instructional aids, printed resources, audio examples for teachers and students addressing the following musical concepts
  - 1. Scales
  - 2. Dynamics
  - 3. Articulations
  - 4. Composition technique
  - 5. Chorals
  - 6. Transposition
  - 7. Various classical styles
  - 8. Rhythm

9. Balance
10. Notation
11. Music history

C. Supplies and equipment

1. Sound system, CD player, tape, DVD
2. Piano and keyboards
3. Music stands, chairs
4. Musical supplies and equipment: Computer notational software, computer, compositional resources
5. Video camera