OMT01: AP Music Theory

Course Description
AP Music Theory is a year-long course that examines the harmony and form of Western European art music from the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras, approximately 1700-1900. Special topics in early music or post-tonal music will be explored from the date of the AP Exam until the end of the school year. This course also includes instruction in sight-singing and ear-training.

Course Objectives
- Harmonize a melody in eighteenth-century chorale style.
- Realize a figured bass in eighteenth-century chorale style.
- Sight-sing a tonal melody with chromatic inflections
- Take dictation of a four-part eighteenth-century chorale and a melody with chromatic inflections, and rhythmic pieces
- Recognize forms such as binary, ternary, invention, fugue, sonata, rondo, and variation.

Schedule of Topics
- Elements of music: pitch, rhythm, major and minor scales in all keys, intervals, triads, seventh chords, and species counterpoint.
- Diatonic harmony and tonicization: eighteenth-century style chorals, functional harmony, phrase structure, motivic analysis, and applied chords.
- Chromatic harmony and form: modulation to closely related keys, binary and ternary forms, inventions, fugues, modal mixture, chromatic harmony, variation, rondo, and sonata.

Prerequisite
It is recommended that students enter the course with the ability to read pitch and rhythm at a moderately fluent level. Other fundamentals such as recognizing all 24 key signatures, the natural, harmonic, and melodic minor keys, and compound and syncopated rhythm will be covered at the beginning of the first semester.

Required Texts
*The Musician’s Guide to Theory and Analysis, 2nd Ed.*
Jane Piper Clendinning and Elizabeth West Martin.
Companion materials to the textbook:
- Workbook
- Anthology
- Anthology recordings

The Musician’s Guide to Aural Skills, 2nd Ed., Vol. 1
Joel Phillips, et. Al.

The Musician’s Guide to Aural Skills, 2nd Ed., Vol. 2
Joel Phillips, et. Al.
Assignments and Exams

- **Homework:** Students will be assigned pages in the workbook to complete, scan, and upload. In the first semester homework assignments will be graded by the student using the answer keys provided. Homework assignments in the second semester have a range of correct answers and will be turned in to be graded by the instructor.

- **Quizzes:** In the first semester, short quizzes will be taken each week to ensure that the student is progressing.

- **Participation:** Students are asked to actively participate in every class by asking about the previous night's homework, volunteering to sight-sing, encouraging another student, etc.

- **Workload:** For a college level course, students should plan to study up to two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class. This class meets for one hour and 15 minutes twice per week, so students should plan to spend up to two and a half hours preparing for each class meeting.

- **Sight-singing:** Students will be asked to demonstrate their ability to hear pitch in their minds by singing an unknown melody. Vocal quality is not under consideration. The point is to demonstrate, by singing, the ability to auralize pitch in the mind.

- **Dictation:** Students will practice notating melodies and harmonies by ear both in and out of class with the aural skills book and CD.

- **Exams:** In the fall semester there will be two midterms and one final exam. These exams are cumulative and will include questions modeled on the homework and dictation. In spring semester there will be a midterm project consisting of musical analysis and harmonization and one final exam.