

AP Music Theory

Summer Assignments

AP Music Theory Students and Parents,

Please take the time to read all of the information below so that you understand the demands of the AP Music Theory course. If you have any questions or problems, please do not hesitate to contact your instructor through email. Students will be expected to take a diagnostic quiz on the first day of class. Please use the information in this letter to help you prepare.

Advanced Placement courses are presented on a college level using college-level textbooks. AP Music Theory runs like the first year of a college music theory experience, developing both theoretical and aural skills. In May, students will take the AP Music Theory Exam. Students who score well may receive college credit for up to a year of Music Theory and/or Aural Skills.

Like other AP courses offered at Pocono Mountain, there are summer assignments for this course. We have much content to cover during the year including extensive aural skills (ear training) and students are expected to do preparatory work prior to the first day of class. All of the students enrolled in AP Music Theory have various musical experiences and sections of the summer assignments may feel like review for some or may introduce completely new material. Either way it is vital to complete the summer assignments so we can all start at the same place in August.

Attached are the summer assignments that you are expected to complete and bring with you on the first day of class. The online pages will be your first graded assignments. You will also be graded on your list of terms attached below- use these terms as a study guide for your first-day quiz! Each skill builds on the previous, so it is essential that you understand the early material in order to grasp the material covered later in the year.

On the first day of class in August, there will be a diagnostic quiz on the topics listed on the following pages. Doing well on the quiz will require some summer studying even if you have prior music theory knowledge.

Good luck with your summer assignments. Please email your teacher if you have any questions.

Sincerely

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Summer Assignment #1

Online Lessons

The following lessons can be found on www.musictheory.net. Please read the following direction and follow each lesson in its entirety.

Directions:

1. Go to www.musictheory.net
2. Select Lessons
3. Go through the following lessons in their entirety:
 - a. The staff, clefs, and ledger lines
 - b. Note Duration
 - c. Measures and Time Signatures
 - d. Rest Duration
 - e. Dots and Ties
 - f. Steps and Accidentals
 - g. Simple and Compound Meter
 - h. Odd Meter
 - i. The Major Scale
 - j. The Minor Scale
 - k. Scale Degrees
 - l. Key Signature Calculation
 - m. Generic Intervals
 - n. Specific Intervals
 - o. Writing Intervals

Summer Assignment #2

Terms:

Define each of the following terms as they relate to music. Please write clearly on notebook paper and leave a space between each term. Feel free to use your textbook or this online music dictionary:

1. www.naxos.com/education/glossary.asp

Words to define:

Sound, Pitch, Tone, Intensity, Duration, Meter, Beat, Rhythm, Timbre, Harmonic Series, Partial, Fundamental, Staff, Clefs, Treble Clef, Bass Clef, Alto Clef, Tenor Clef, Grandstaff, Middle C, Ledger Lines, Accidentals, Sharp, Flat, Natural, Double Sharp, Double Flat, Interval, Enharmonic Equivalents, Pulse, Time Signatures, Simple Meter, Compound Meter, Duple Meter, Triple Meter, Quadruple Meter, Asymmetrical Meter, Syncopation, Dynamic Marking, Scale, Pitch Class, Diatonic Scales, Scale Degree Names, Major Scale, Tetrachord, Key Signature, Natural Minor Scale, Harmonic Minor Scale, Melodic Minor Scale, Relative Minor, Relative Major, Circle of Fifths, Parallel Relationship, Tonality, Key Pentatonic Scale, Solfeggio