



# SUMMER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL DEPARTMENT

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AMANDA ROBISON, DIRECTOR

## Goals of the AP Music Theory Class

The ultimate goal of an AP Music Theory course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. The achievement of this goal may be best promoted by integrated approaches to the student's development of:

- aural skills listening exercises
- sight-singing skills performance exercises
- written skills through written exercises
- compositional skills creative exercises
- analytical skills analytical exercises

## Content of the AP Music Theory Class

The course will first instill mastery of the rudiments and terminology of music, including hearing and notating:

- pitches
- intervals
- scales and keys
- chords
- meter
- rhythm

Attention will be given to the attainment of correct notational skills, emphasizing speed and fluency. Then, building on this foundation, the course will progress to include more sophisticated and creative tasks, such as:

- melodic and harmonic dictation
- composition of a bass line for a given melody, implying appropriate harmony
- realization of a figured bass
- realization of a Roman numeral progression
- analysis of repertoire, including melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, and form
- sight-singing

Like most first-year college courses, the AP course will emphasize aural and visual identification of procedures based in common-practice tonality:

- functional triadic harmony in traditional four-voice texture (with vocabulary including non-harmonic tones, seventh chords, and secondary dominants)
- cadences
- melodic and harmonic compositional processes (e.g., sequence, motivic development)
- standard rhythms and meters
- phrase structure (e.g., contrasting period, phrase group)
- small forms (e.g., rounded binary, simple ternary, theme and variation, strophic)
- modulation to closely related keys

# AP Music Theory Summer Preparation

By the time school begins in the fall, students should know:

- Basic music reading skills
- The names of the lines and spaces for the bass clef and treble clef (Identify within 1 sec)
- Rhythmic names for notes and rests
- The names of the notes on the keyboard (Identify within 1 sec)

## MusicTheory.net

Students can utilize [musictheory.net](http://musictheory.net) to prepare for the fall. By the time they return to school in the fall, students are responsible for having completed the following lessons and have mastered the following exercises:

### Lessons

- The Staff, Clefs, and Ledger Lines
- Note Duration
- Measures and Time Signature
- Rest Duration
- Dots and Ties
- Steps and Accidentals
- Rhythm and Meter
- Simple and Compound Meter
- Odd Meter
- Scales and Key Signatures
- The Major Scale
- The Minor Scales
- Scale Degrees
- Key Signatures.

### Exercises

- Note Identification
- Key Signature Identification
- Interval Identification
- Keyboard Note Identification
- Keyboard Reverse Identification
- Scale Ear Training

If you have any questions, here is my contact info:

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# Taking AP Music Theory can lead to a future in...

## Career Areas

Actors	Computer Programmers	Mechanical Engineers
Actuaries	Computer Scientists	Medical Scientists
Adult Educators	Computer Systems Analysts	Meteorologists
Advertising, Marketing, and Public Relations Managers	Copy Editors	Musicians and Singers
Aerospace Engineers	Copywriters	News Analysts, Reporters, and Correspondents
Aircraft Pilots	Craft Artists	Operations Research Analysts
Announcers	Curators	Physical Therapists
Anthropologists and Archaeologists	Dancers	Physicists and Astronomers
Architects	Directors	Postsecondary Teachers
Archivists	Editors	Private-Practice Lawyers
Art Directors	Electrical Engineers	Public Accountants
Arts Administrators	Electronics Technicians	Public Interest Lawyers
Athletic Trainers	Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers	Public Relations Specialists
Camera Operators and Film and Video Editors	Engineering Technicians	Recreational Therapists
Chemists and Materials Scientists	Fashion Designers	Research Psychologists
Choreographers	Financial Analysts	Set Designers
Composers	Fine Artists	Software Developers
Computer and Information Systems Managers	Historians	Statisticians
Computer Hardware Engineers	Illustrators	Technical Writers
	Industrial Designers	Theater, Film, and TV Technicians
	Management Consultants	Translators
	Market and Survey Researchers	Web Designers
	Mathematicians	Writers

## College Majors

American Studies	Music
Classics	Musical Theater
Computer Science	Physics
Dance	Statistics
Electrical Engineering	Studio Arts
English	Theater Arts
Film Studies	Voice and Opera
Mathematics	