



# PAPILLION – LA VISTA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Title:** AP Music Theory

**Course Number:**

**Duration:** two semesters/ two credits

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** must be enrolled in a concurrent music class

**Course Description:** This college course studies the harmony of tonal music through part-writing exercises. Although it emphasizes the music of the common practice period, music of other stylistic periods is also studied. All units include listening, writing, creative, and sight singing components as well as written and aural analysis related to the unit topic. A wide variety of music will be studied in this class ranging from the Baroque to the Romantic Periods, but also including Popular and Folk music among other styles. In addition, this course will cover the basics of music including music reading in multiple clefs, scales, key signatures, meter signatures, rhythm, triads seventh chords, and elementary aural and signing skills. The primary purpose of the course is to prepare students for further study in music at the college level. In addition, in meeting all curricular requirements of the UNO course, this course also meets the requirements for the advanced placement exam.

**Instructor name:** Scott Dugdale

**Office location:** 1136

**School telephone number:** (402) 829-4654

**Email address:** [scott.dugdale@plcschools.org](mailto:scott.dugdale@plcschools.org)

**Answering policy for email:** Responses will always be timely and email is the best contact method. Inquiry answers may take a day depending on school activities.

**Departmental websites:** <https://plsouthshowchoirs.yolasite.com>

**A little about me as a teacher:** This is my seventh year at Papillion La Vista South High School, and my twenty-six year of teaching. I got my undergraduate degree in Vocal and Instrumental music education at Dana College in Blair, NE. I finished my master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in Music Education in July of 2017.

**URL for online copy of syllabus:**

**Knowledge prerequisites:**

- Reading music in at least one staff comfortably
- Should have basic knowledge of key signatures
- Must be in a performing class (either band or choir)

**Specific skills or knowledge students will gain:**

- Developing aural, composition, analytical, and performance skills
- Becoming fluent in the vocabulary and symbols used to describe musical elements and their interactions
- Students will be prepared to take the AP exam by the end of the course
- Skills will build upon the foundation, once a topic has been visited it will continue to be used as the course progresses

**We will achieve this by:**

- A review of the fundamentals of music: scales, key signatures, circle of fifths, intervals, triads, and inversions
- Daily Ear training: rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic diction
- Weekly sight singing
- The study of: figured bass, two-part counterpoint, four part harmony, seventh chords, secondary-dominant functions, and musical form
- The study of common compositional techniques

**Textbooks:** The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis- Clendenning/ Marvin; Tonal Harmony- Kotska/ Payne

**Other resources used:** The Musician's Guide to Aural Skills Volume 1- Clendenning/ Marvin; The Musician's Guide to Aural Skills Volume 2-Clendenning/ Marvin; Melodia: The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis Anthology- Clendenning/ Marvin; A Course in Sight-Singing- Solfeggio- Complete- Samuel Cole;

**Daily required materials:**

- Notebook paper, Staff paper
- Class Binder
- Pencil (homework done in pen will not be accepted)
- Finale Notepad/ Noteflight (A free download)

### Teacher Schedule:

	First Semester	Second Semester
0		
1	Plan	Plan
2	Plan	Plan
3	Varsity Choir	Varsity Choir
4	Concert Choir	Concert Choir
5	AP Music Theory	AP Music Theory
6	Freshman Choir	Freshman Choir
7	Plan	Plan

Our school has a “Responsible and Acceptable Usage Policy for Cell Phones and Electronic Devices”. Students are expected to adhere to the policy. In this class, the use of personal technology items is allowed for educational use. Failure to comply with the acceptable use policy will result in a discipline referral without warning. Please utilize your time in passing periods and lunch to take care of these items. In this classroom, **silence of these items is expected.**

### Expectations about class participation:

This class is based on completion. Students will have the opportunity to retake quizzes and exams for the opportunity to master skills. Every unit will include written and aural analysis related to the unit topic. It will also include workbook assignments in each chapter. These assignments are to be kept in a theory notebook. Notebooks will be checked on a regular basis and students will be graded on their completion of homework and completed in class notes.

Written assignments are due at the beginning of class.

### Late assignments will be accepted but will receive no more than 80%.

Arrangements may be made at my discretion to resubmit assignments in order to improve a grade.

Students will be given guided notes as a part of their lecture notebook to aid in understanding and participation. This will include workbook pages that correlate to a given chapter. Students are able to make up lessons they miss, but will be docked points for failure to complete this. This is the student’s responsibility. **I will not seek out students for missing class days.**

**Examinations:** Students will take exams over various theory topics as per the AP course guidelines. Short quizzes will be given through out the quarter and comprehensive exams will occur at least once a quarter.

### Elements of the course grade and their weights:

Homework- 30%

- Workbook Material- 10%
- Compositions- 10%
- Projects- 10%

Classroom Participation- 30 %

- Sight Singing- 10%
- Dictation- 10%
- Lecture notebook- 10%

Quizzes- 10%

Exams- 30%

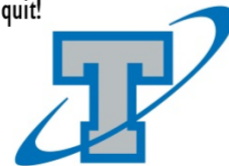
### PLSHS Grading Scale:

Regular Classes

A+	100.00	96.50	C+	79.40	76.50
A	96.40	92.50	C	76.40	72.50
A-	92.40	89.50	C-	72.40	69.50
B+	89.40	86.50	D+	69.40	66.50
B	86.40	82.50	D	66.40	62.50
B-	82.40	79.50	D-	62.40	59.50
			F	59.40	0.00

### 10 Titan Habits for Academic Success

1. Be in class, be on time!
2. Pay attention!
3. Ask questions and ask for help!
4. Be kind and respectful to all. Help others!
5. Take great notes!
6. Do the work!
7. Do not cheat!
8. Manage your time!
9. Be involved!
10. Do not quit!



Grades are updated online and can be accessed on the Parent Web (see parent link at [www.plshs.paplv.org](http://www.plshs.paplv.org) or go directly to <https://simsweb.esu3.org/login.cfm?sdist=ply>). If you do not have your password, you may click on the “forgot password” link.

## AP Exam

AP Music Theory has a corresponding exam that participating schools worldwide administer in May. The AP Exam is the culminating assessment in all AP courses and is thus an integral part of the Program. Students are expected to take the corresponding AP Exam. Through this they have the opportunity to earn valuable college credit as well as college test taking experience.

Five kinds of questions are ordinarily included in the exam: multiple-choice questions based on recorded music played within the exam; multiple-choice questions without aural stimulus; written free-response questions with aural stimulus; written free-response questions without aural stimulus; and sight-singing. The written free-response and sight-singing sections are scored by AP Music Theory teachers and college music faculty.

**Academic Integrity:** *“The maintenance of academic honesty and integrity is a vital concern of the University community. Any student found responsible for violating the policy on Academic Integrity shall be subject to both academic and disciplinary sanctions.”* [Via studentlife.unomaha.edu/integrity](http://studentlife.unomaha.edu/integrity)

SEMESTER 1		Concept	Aural Skills	Assignment	
PRE	Aug 13	PRE CH 1	Prerequisite skills Pitch and Pitch Class	Pre-Test	Placement exam, 1.1
Week 1	Aug 16- Aug 20	CH 1	Pitch and Pitch Class	Melodic dictation: 3-5 note patterns	1.3, 1.5, CL1
Week 2	Aug 23 - Aug 27	CH 2 CH 4	Simple Meter Compound Meter	Simple meter	2.2, 2.4, CL2, Rhythm Partner Project,
Week 3	Aug 30 – Sep 3	CH 3	Pitch Collections, Scales Major Keys including Pentatonic and Whole- Tone Scales	Scale line melodies	Rhythm Group Project
Week 4	Sep 7 - Sept 10	CH 5	Minor Keys, Modes	Tonic Intervals, Major key, simple meter	Quiz- Key signatures
Week 5	Sept 13 - 17	CH 6	Intervals	Interval identity	Composition
Week 6	Sept 20- 23	CH 7 CH 8	Triads Seventh Chords	Triad quality	
Week 7	Sept 27- Oct 1	CH 4*	Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys	Triad Quality	Quiz- Triad and scale identification
Week 8	Oct 4 - Oct 7	CH 5*	Principles of Voice leading	Basic melodies in major and minor	
Week 9	Oct 12- 15	CH 6*	Root Position Part Writing	review	
Week 10	Oct 18- 22	CH 7*	Harmonic Progression and Sequence	Basic chord progressions	Composition- I V I
Week 11	Oct 25- 29	CH 8,9*	Triads in First and Second Inversion	Triads in inversions	Quiz-
Week 12	Nov 1- Nov 5	CH 10*	Cadences, Phrases, Periods, and Sentences	Intervals: Minor Keys	Composition- I I V V I
Week 13	Nov 8- Nov 11	CH 11* CH 12*	Nonchord Tones 1 Nonchord Tones 2		

Week 14	Nov 15-19	CH 10	Melodic Embellishment		Quiz-
Week 15	Nov 22-Dec 3	CH 11	Soprano and Bass lines in 18 <sup>th</sup> century	Intervals from Dominant Triads, major and minor keys	
Week 16	Dec 6-Dec 10	CH 12	SATB style	Further Use of Diatonic Intervals	Review
Week 17/18	Dec 13-17	CH 12	SATB style	Further Use of Diatonic Int.	Semester Exams

SEMESTER 2                      Concept                                      Aural Skills                                      Assignment

Week 1	Jan 5-7		Review of SATB style	Group Harmonization of chorales	
Week 2	Jan 10-14	CH 13	Dominant 7ths and harmonization		
Week 3	Jan 18-21	CH 14	Expanding Tonic and Dominant Areas		
Week 4	Jan 24-Jan 28	CH 15	Diatonic Harmonies and Root Progressions		
Week 5	Jan. 31 - Feb 4	CH 16	embellishing tones in four voices	8 measure excerpts from choral literature	Composition- motivic treatments
Week 6	Feb 7-10	CH 17	Other Voice Leading Chords		Composition- Phrase structures
Week 7	Feb 14-Feb 18	CH 18	Phrase Structure and Motivic Analysis	Scale patterns for sight singing	
Week 8	Feb 22 - Feb - 25	CH 19	Diatonic Sequences,	Melodic dication: melodies with small skips	
Week 9	Feb 28 – Mar 4	CH 20	Secondary Dominants and leading tone chords to V	Melodic Dictation: Common phrase beginning and endings	Composition- writing and resolving secondary dominants
Week 10	Mar 7-11	CH 21	Tonicizing scale degrees other than V		

Week 11	Mar 21-25	CH 22	Modulation to closely related keys	Basic 4 measure phrases	
Week 12	Mar 28 - Apr 1	CH 24	Inventions, Fugues, and other contrapuntal genres		
Week 13	Apr 5-8	CH 27, 23	Vocal forms, Binary and ternary forms	Student composed 8 measure phrases	composition
Week 14	Apr 11-14	CH 28	Popular music	Dictation Drills	Analysis of forms
Week 15	Apr 19-22	CH 31	Variation and Rondo	Harmonic Dictation AP practice	Presentations
Week 16	Apr 25 - Apr 29	CH 32	Sonata and Related forms		Composition
Week 17	May 2-7	Projects	Music Composition Projects		AP EXAM
Week 18	May 10-20	Projects	Music Composition Projects		Project Submissions