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## HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

PROPOSED COURSE NAME: AP Music Theory

OLD COURSE NAME (if applicable)

N/A

SUBMITTED BY:

Underline the Appropriate Item: New Course / Major revision to an existing course

Implementation Date: School Year 2017 – 2018 Spring Semester

Person(s) who will write the Curriculum:

Johnny Lammersfeld

Respond to the following:

Duration: Semester Long

Open to: Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: 2 years of being in either Band or Choir

Pass/Fail Option: Yes, Normal Grading Scale

Credit:

If the course meets a graduation requirement, which one does meet?

Fine Arts Elective

Where does this course fit into department sequence?

This course is for students with an aptitude for music and for students currently looking at music as a major or minor for college. This course will cover advanced topics and subject matter that is not able to be fit in a typical rehearsal class like choir or band. Students taking the course will become stronger musicians and composers with higher level music making being practiced and researched.

What is the potential impact of this course on the other department offerings?

This course will strengthen our music department by strengthening our musicians. A deeper look into the theory and composition of music makes a stronger musician allowing students to have many revelations in the actual creation and thought process put into music.

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## Course Description

AP music theory is for advanced music students who are looking to study an advanced approach of the theory of music and its composition. Students will learn core theory like the spelling of scales, chords, part-writing, transposition, and aural tonal skills. In addition to students will compose and study the writing of music and compose two pieces of their own composition.

Special Notes (i.e., extended periods, team teaching, etc.)

N/A

## RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES

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### 1. Course Rationale

A) What is the evidence of student need for this course?

This course is for the specific and dedicated students in the music program that are very interested in music. Without advanced courses like Northern Lights and AP Music theory it is possible that students can reach caps in their learning due to the lack of experience of the students around them. This course allows students to progress into advanced topics and give them strength in their music making that they will need to become more successful as they progress.

B) What departmental needs/goals would this course meet?

This course would strengthen our music program by strengthening our dedicated musicians. They would be able to get to the core of music and the method of composition becoming more literate in their world of music and its performance.

C) What institutional needs/goals would this course meet?

This course would strengthen the music program by allowing our students to become higher level thinkers and musicians.

2. Course Objectives: What will each student learn and know?

Students will learn in the first half of the semester an overview of written and aural skills in music theory. This would cover material much like a college freshman music theory course. Students will learn Scales, chords, chord qualities, diatonic chords, time signatures, key signatures, sight-singing, intervals, part-writing, and transposition. Students will then look into composing music and how it is done. Students will then have two large composition projects covering instrumentation for band and then an instrumentation of their choosing. Student projects will then be performed by the high school band in class and in the theory class itself.

3. What types of instructional strategies will be used in the class?

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The course will be taught in the lecture setting along with student practice and assessment. Students will need to show mastery of each skill learned to progress forward in the class. Classes will include discussion and group work to learn the subject matter.

4. What types of student assessment procedures will be used? How will the assessment be used to guide instruction?

Assessments will be graded by unit tests studying the material learned. Students will be assessed by their ability to perform each musical skill in written and aural tests. Students will continue to learn core music theory when the class switches to its composition focus. Compositions and their ability to be written with the provided guide lines will be a large portion of student grades.

5. List resources needed and approximate costs to implement this course. Include staff development, materials, textbooks, additional staff, equipment, technology resources, facilities, and fees.

1. Band Director at the Junior High

Include any additional information pertinent to your course.

This course opens up options to all students throughout the district and this will allow growth in the music department.

This I believe would be the final class to begin to consider offering the students. I am completely open to any suggestions.

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