# MUSC CLASS SYLLABUS COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In Music Theory, students will implement higher-level musical language and grammar skills including musical notation, harmonic analysis, and part writing which will lead to a thorough understanding of music composition and music theory. Students will obtain and practice ear training skills and skills required for sight reading musical literature. They will recognize the development of music from an historical and cultural perspective and extend musical awareness beyond music currently familiar to the student.

**INSTRUCTOR: J. Morse** 

Contact Information: email jmorse@aerostem.org

TEXT/MATERIALS:

The beginning required text will be:

Fundamentals of Piano Theory - Preparatory Paperback Fundamentals of Piano Theory - Level 1 Paperback by <u>Keith Snell</u>, <u>Martha Ashleigh</u>

All other material will be offered online, or paper will be provided. Students must attend one Orchestrated or Choral Concert this year. It is recommended that students acquire a keyboard instrument for home practice.

#### **ESSENTIAL CONTENT:**

The essential content in this course will include aspects of each of the six Fine Arts Learning Standards.

- 1. Experience different kinds of art or music.
  - a. Accurately recognize the principles and practices of art or musical composition.
    - b. Examine, evaluate and analyze sounds, images, and ideas.
    - c. Use a variety of senses to experience art or music.
    - d. Examine, evaluate and analyze professional created art or music and music in history.
- 2. Understand the purpose of tools, techniques, and terminology used in the creative and productive process.
  - a. Select and accurately use appropriate artistic, stylistic, and interpretive terminology.
- 3. Effectively use appropriate materials, processes and techniques to create, perform and interpret music.
  - a. Select and apply appropriate materials, techniques and processes to the production of a work of art or music.
  - b. Develop automaticity in skills, concepts, and processes that support and enable complex creative thought.
  - c. Work in an environment that is safe and healthy, and encourages self confidence and responsible experimentation.
- 4. Understand the aesthetic components of art or music and develop aesthetic awareness.
  - a. Analyze and describe the role, meaning, and value of a work of art or music.
  - b. Apply elements of design, music structure, and expression.
- 5. Develop historical and cultural perspectives in art or music.
  - a. Compare and contrast the characteristics of art or music through representative works from various historical and cultural periods.

- 6. Develop skills necessary to evaluate art or music.
  - a. Employ critical thinking skills during the evaluative process.
  - b. Identify and characterize the composing elements of dynamic and organic
  - c. wholes, structures, and systems in works of art.

#### SSL's:

- I.A. Develop automaticity in skills, concepts, and processes that support/enable complex thought.
  - a. Music Theory: Developing automatic recognition of music notes, intervals, scales, and basic chords.
- II B. Find and analyze ambiguities inherent within any set of textual, social, physical, or theoretical circumstances.
  - a. Music Theory: Analyze pieces of music within the confines of various compositional approaches.
- III A. Use appropriate technologies as extensions of the mind.
  - a. Music Theory: Learn keyboard skills in order to promote understanding of musical concepts, use the composition software "Musescore" to facilitate composition projects.
- IV A. Construct and support judgments based on evidence.
  - a. Music Theory: Through developing aural and visual knowledge of various forms of music, students will be able to make and support judgments about a musical piece's key, form, chord progression, style, and structure
- IV C. Identify and characterize the composing elements of dynamic and organic wholes, structures, and systems.
- a. Music Theory: Through learning about smaller elements of composition throughout the semester, students will be able to analyze an entire piece of music in regard to tonal centers, modulations, motives, phrases, periods, and cadences by the end of the course.

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND APPROACH:**

Students are expected to actively participate in classroom discussions and demonstration each week. The handouts and lessons include extensive part writing and composition exercises which will be assigned often. Students will utilize the keyboards (actual or online) for a variety of exercises, including developing the skills necessary to play some homework assignments, harmonic progressions, and melodies, and rhythm. Students will compose short assignments using the free online software, "musescore" throughout the semester. Review of music fundamentals through composition and analysis through the use of musictheory.net. Emphasis on principle triads; part-writing procedures and analysis, incorporating the following concepts: rhythm and meter; basic properties of sound; intervals; diatonic scales and triads; diatonic chords, basic cadential formulas and phrase structure; dominant seventh chords; figured bass symbols; and non-harmonic tones. Development of skills in handwritten notation is expected. Further, students may produce music using either Abelton light or an online sight such as Bandlab.com

Exercises in applying theoretical concepts to the voice and keyboard developing the rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic elements of beginning theory. Emphasis on ear-training employing exercises in rhythmic reading and dictation, sight singing, analysis, and melodic dictation

A chronological survey of Western Art Music with special emphasis on style, genres, composers, and important works. Covers the period from antiquity to current pop music.

## **Grading Procedures:**

Quarter grades will be calculated from cumulative points per quarter from weighted categories. Semester grades will be calculated with each quarter being 40% and the final being the remaining 20%. Letter grades are assigned based on the scale listed below:

A = 90% - 100%	Quarter 1 = 40%	Class Participation	= 35%
B = 80% - 89%	Quarter 2 = 40%	Assessments	= 30%
C = 70% - 79%	Final Exam = 20%	Classworks & HW	= 15%
D = 60% - 69%		Labs/Simulations	= 20%
F = 50% - 59%	Total = 100		

Total = 100%

## **Classroom Expectations:**

- A. Classroom Routine
- 1. Enter the Class Room Quietly. Go to your seat and begin to work on the warm up (Warm ups are handed in weekly).
- 2. During Roll Please Say "Here".
- 3. The instructor will take this time to check on homework completion.
- 4. Announcements.
- 5. Lecture Time -- please do not talk and take notes.
- 6. Have all materials needed READY for the day!

## **Policies Classroom Policies:**

**Behavior:** Students will respect the rights of others in the classroom, and the school's equipment and facilities. All students will be required to pass a safety quiz and return a signed safety contract (student and guardian) in order to participate in labs. It is a privilege to do labs. They help to make learning meaningful, fun and exciting.

- 1. Dress Code: Please refer to the dress code in the handbook. No hats or Hoodies in Class.
- 2. **Environment:** No distracting noises, gestures, or talking. Only those things appropriate for school are acceptable, No Phones at anytime in class, no chewing gum in class, and do not through anything in the classroom.
- 3. **Language:** Please follow school rules for appropriate language use, no inappropriate language will be tolerated. .
- 4. **Active Participation** in class is expected from each student is expected.
- 5. Raise Your Hand: If you have questions, or need something please raise your hand and ask the

teacher.

- 6. **Technology in the Classroom**: Only those sites, WebPages, or programs that are part of the class work are acceptable.
- 7. **Laptop Policies**: The teacher may mute or stop the video, lock out a site, or close a tab of any student who is not meeting expectations, this way the student may remain in the class.
- 8. **During Classes**, everyone is expected to respect the speaker may it be your teacher or fellow students. Avoid distracting the class any means possible to avoid sanctions.
- 9. **Tools and Equipment**: All tools and equipment are to utilized only with the proper safety precautions: If you break it the total price of the tool or equipment will be charged to you.

## **Absences and Make-up Work:**

- It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missed work and notes in cases of excused absences.
- If a long-term assignment has been assigned before the absence, the due date stands.
- Make-up work must be received within the number of days (s) of the excused absence and according to the time of the assignment or it will be treated as late work.
- Students will not receive any credit for work from an unexcused absence. It is important to be present every day in class.

#### Late Work:

Due dates are posted several times and you are responsible for knowing these. If an assignment is not handed in when asked for or due, it is considered late.

- If late: You will not be reminded to turn in late work.
- Late work will be accepted at teacher discretion.

\*\*\*May 15-19 Review and Pretest\*\*\*

Student Signature:

Any late work accepted by the teacher will have a 5% deduction per day from the final grade.

### Notebook:

Each student will be required to keep all work for this class in a Three Ringed Binder which will be used for handouts, homework, and music. Periodically, the binder will be checked for organization and completeness using a rubric.

***May 23-27 Map Testing Review and Structure*** ***May 31- June 2 Final Exam***					

## AEROSTEM MUSIC CLASS SYLLABUS

Parents Signature:		
Date:		