

# Montclair High School

## Course Syllabus

**Department: VPA**

**Course: Music Theory II**

**Level: High Honors**

**Credits: 5**

### Course Description:

Music Theory II is a college-level course for serious music students. The course is equivalent to a advanced music theory/composition course for music majors, challenging students with advanced harmonic and composition techniques. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to the course, and it is assumed that the student has successfully completed the Advanced Placement Music Theory course.

### Standards:

NJCCCS 1.1B, 1.2B, 1.3B, 1.4B

### Anchor Text(s):

Text Title	Publisher/Author	Year/Edition	ISBN	Text Distribution
<i>Music in Theory and Practice</i>	McGraw Hill/ Benward, Bruce and Saker. Marilyn	2003/7 <sup>th</sup> edition (Vol. 2)	978-0077493325	Hard copy

### Supplementary Materials:

- Computer Programs:
  - Sibelius 6, Music writing software
- Classroom Materials
  - Pencils
  - Music manuscript paper
  - Ringed Binder or Spiral notebook and storage folder
  - Plastic ruler or straight edge
  - Transportable data storage device – 2G minimum
  - Computer workstation with MIDI Controller

### Units of Study:

- Terminology and Notational Skills:
  - Advanced Harmony: Borrowed chords, Augmented 6<sup>th</sup> chords, Neapolitan 6<sup>th</sup> chords
  - Chromatic harmony, quartal harmony, parallel harmony.
  - Poly rhythms, multiple meters, asymmetrical meters
  - Non-tonal constructions
- Compositional Skills:

- Compositions in traditional forms: polyphony, fugue, variation, sonata.
  - Compositions in non-tonal forms.
  - Instruments, transposition and arranging.
- Aural Skills:
    - Continue with developing singing and dictation skills

**Proficiencies:**

Students' progress and success can be measured in several simultaneous ways. The nature of music lends itself to immediate evaluation of the quality of work through performance. The performance will provide students with the results of their written work. Overall quality and success can be measured by the quality of examinations and musical projects. Measurement of the success of the skills learned is immediate upon aural performance.

**Evaluation & Assessment:**

Success of the course can be measured in the understanding of concepts exhibited in major projects, the grading of the class and the overall interest of the students. The Advanced Placement Examination can be the measure of the success of the course, class and student. More importantly, the knowledge and skills gained by each student for their level and interest and ability will be the true measure of success.

I. Student

- a. Daily performances
- b. Application assignments
- c. Examinations
- d. Self and Peer evaluation
- e. Music composition projects and practical applications
- f. Advanced Placement Examination

II. Course

- a. Student success and performance
- b. Relevance to student's interest and ability
- c. Examination and performance grades
- d. Quality of music composition projects and practical applications

**Grading:** 100% Project-based