



## **CHEROKEE BLUFF**

### *High School*

2023-2024 School Year

1<sup>st</sup> period

Instructor: J. Craig Cantrell

Email: [craig.cantrell@hallco.org](mailto:craig.cantrell@hallco.org)

Phone: 770-967-0080

Room: 1325 (Band Room)

### **Course Description**

Beginning Music Theory introduces fundamentals of organized sound, emphasizing rules of Western music composition and offering opportunities to create original works. Students will develop the ability to describe, understand, and recognize aspects of tonal music, and skills in sight-singing, dictation/aural, written aspects, composition, and analytical areas. Students will be exposed to a variety of exercises designed to develop these skills including listening, performance, writing, creating, and analyzing music. While the main emphasis is placed on music of the Common Practice Period (1600-1750), music of other stylistic periods may also be studied. Explores use of technology for composition.

### **Materials Needed:**

Notebook (3-ring style binder) or Spiral Bound, Pencil, Staff Paper, Notational software (e.g. Finale Notepad), Notebook paper.

### **Textbook:**

Notes will be provided to you via Powerpoint

### **Grading Criteria:**

#### **Formative Assessments:**

Participation in Class Discussion / Daily Grades	15%
Assignments/Projects/Quizzes	15%
Study Guides	20%

#### **Summative Assessments:**

***(Note: All questions come from NOTES and Study Guides!)***

Chapter Tests	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

*\*The Hall County School District will continue its practice of providing an alternative reading assignment at parent/guardian request.*

### **Class Procedures:**

1. No chewing gum, eating, or drinking will be permitted in the band room areas (other than water in a sealed container).
2. Do not throw paper/trash on the floor. Use the trash cans provided. When leaving class, please rearrange your chairs and leave the room neat and orderly.
3. Leave all percussion and other musical instruments/equipment alone (this includes the piano, audio unit, computer, Promethean, etc.) unless given permission to use by instructor.
4. No "rough play" in the band room areas.
5. All students are expected to be in the band room when the tardy bell rings. I follow school tardy procedures. Please refer to the Student Handbook regarding tardies.
6. Have all necessary supplies with you at all times. This includes a 3-ring binder/spiral notebook with paper, pencil/pen, etc....
7. Treat classroom supplies (i.e. music stands, supplies) with respect and care.
8. When in doubt, treat everyone (including the instructor), as you would wish to be treated; be courteous, respectful and mature.
9. **You MAY NOT take pictures of my slides. You must copy the notes onto your own papers. THIS HELPS YOU LEARN THE MATERIAL.**
10. **THE USE OF A CELL PHONE ON ANY TEST (if I see it on you, it's being used) WILL RESULT IN A ZERO GRADE AND A REFERRAL FOR CHEATING.**

**Attendance/Tardy Policy:**

Attendance is mandatory and students are expected to be accountable for all absences. Students will be allowed 24 hours after the absence(s) to make-up their assignment/participation grade if they so desire.

**Remember: Passing or failing will not be my choice but yours!  
Choose to be successful in your daily life through a great attitude and a great outlook on life!!!**



**Beginning Music Theory  
Course Outline**

**FIRST SEMESTER:**

- Week 1: Syllabus, Course Requirements
- Week 2: Pitch; The Staff; The Musical Alphabet; Clefs, Treble/Bass Clef; Ledger Lines; Great Staff; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 3: The Keyboard; Names of White Keys; Intervals; The Octave; Half Steps and Whole Steps; 10 Questions Quiz
- Week 4: Accidentals; Names of Black Keys; Enharmonic Spellings; Playing, Ear Training, and Sight-singing; 10 Questions Quiz
- Week 5: The Construction of Notes; Beamed Notes; Note Values and Relations; Notation of Rests  
**Benchmark #1 (Unit Test: Ch.1-Ch.3)**
- Week 6: Chromatic/Diatonic Half Steps; Whole Steps; Ear Training Test; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 7: Major Scales: Characteristics; C Major & Other Scales; Relationship of Major Scales; Sight-Singing Test; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 8: Major Scales Con't; Spelling Scales; 10 Question Quiz; Ear Training & Sight-Singing Quiz
- Week 9: Names of the Scale Degrees; 10 Question Quiz  
**Benchmark #2 (Unit Test: Ch.4-Ch.5)**
- Week 10: Review: Notes, Rests, Values, and Relationships; Introduce Beats, Tempo, Grouping of Beats, Bar Lines and Measures; 10 Questions Quiz
- Week 11: Divisions of Beats, Simple Beat, Compound Beat, Bar Lines and Measures 10 Question Quiz
- Week 12: Notation of Simple/Compound Beat; Meter (Time) Signatures; Simple/Compound Meter Signatures; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 13: Conductor's Beats; Rhythm, Anacrusis; Rhythmic Reading; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 14: Part writing in second position; Composing using triads  
**Benchmark #3 (Unit 3 Test: Ch.7-9; Ch.12-13)**
- Week 15: Playing Scales at the Keyboard; Singing Major Scales; Scales Quiz – Writing 12 Major Scales; Ear Training / Sight-Singing Quiz
- Week 16: Key; Key Signature; Key Signature on the Staff ; Ear Training / Sight-Singing Quiz; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 17: Circle of Fifths; Fine Arts Performance Essay  
**Benchmark #4 (Unit 4 Test: Ch. 10 – Ch.11)**
- Week 18: Review for Mid-Term Exam; Review Ear Training & Sight-singing procedures.  
**Benchmark #5 (Mid-Term Exam)**

**SECOND SEMESTER:**

- Week 19: Accidentals (Con't); Double Flat/Sharp; Natural Sign; Minor Scale Forms (Natural, Harmonic, and Melodic); Use of Minor Scales; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 20: Review Minor Scale Forms; Names of Scale Degrees in Minor; Playing Minor Scales at the Keyboard; Singing Minor Scales. Writing 12 Minor Scales (all 3 forms); 10 Question Quiz
- Week 21: Derivation of Key Signatures in Minor; Minor Key Signatures on the Staff; Circle of Fifths for Minor Keys; Ear Training and Sight-singing Test; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 22: The Circle of Fifths for Major and Minor Keys Together; Relative/Parallel Keys.  
**Benchmark #1 (Unit 5 Test: Ch.14 – Ch.17)**
- Week 23: Interval; Naming the Interval; Major/Perfect Intervals in Major Scale; Analysis of Intervals in Major Scale; Ear Training Intervals (PP, M3, P5, P8); 10 Question Quiz
- Week 24: Interval Analysis Con't; Simple/Compound Intervals; Ear Training (musictheory.net); Ear Training / Sight-singing Quiz
- Week 25: Minor/Diminished/Augmented Intervals; Ear Training (musictheory.net); 10 Question Quiz
- Week 26: Modification of Intervals; Analyzing and Writing All Types of Intervals; Intervals in Inversion; Ear Training (musictheory.net); 10 Question Quiz
- Week 27: Review all Intervals (Maj. Min. Dim. Aug.)  
**Benchmark #2 (Unit 6 Test: Ch.18 – 19)**
- Week 28: Chords; The Triad; Types of Triads; The Major Triad; Inversions of Triads; Triad Position; Doubling; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 29: Review Triads; Dissonance and Consonance; Chords in a Major Key.  
10 Question Quiz
- Week 30: Melody Harmonization; Playing the Chord Progression I V<sup>7</sup> I; Procedures for Harmonization; 10 Question Quiz
- Week 31: Con't Harmonizing Melodies; Playing Chord Progressions Using I, IV, and V<sup>7</sup>  
Ear Training / Sight-singing Quiz
- Week 32: The Minor Triad; Chords in a Minor Key; The Diminished and Augmented Triad  
Harmonizing in Min, Dim, and Aug. Tonalties
- Week 33: Playing the Chord Progressions i V<sup>7</sup> i; Harmonizing Melodies in Minor Keys.  
Ear Training / Sight-singing
- Week 34: **Benchmark #3 – (Unit 7 Test: Ch. 20 – Ch.23)**  
Performance Essay; Begin Work on Compositional Project.
- Week 35: General Review; Work Compositional Project
- Week 36: **Benchmark #4 – (Compositional Project Presentation)**  
**Benchmark #5 - Final Exam**

**Beginning Music Theory**  
***Parent/Guardian/Student Contract***

Parents, once you have read, understand, and agree with the information listed within the syllabus, please sign below. Students also sign and return **this sheet only**. Should you ever have any questions concerning progress, please know that you may call or email me at any time.  
**\*\*Note:** The teacher reserves the right to make adjustments in the course content and/or procedures as necessary.

***Please return this form to Mr. Cantrell by: Friday, August 11, 2023***

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Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Parent/Guardian Home or Cell Phone #)

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(Parent/Guardian Email Address -  
\*Very Important for Communication  
Purposes i.e... Grade reports)

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**Beginning Music Theory**  
***Classroom Responsibilities of the Student***

- It is my responsibility to:
  1. Bring required materials to class daily.
  2. Be responsible for my attendance in class.
  3. Be on time.
  4. Adhere to school dress code and school guidelines as outlined in the CBHS High School Agenda.
  5. Not bring food/candy/gum or drink into the band room areas.
  6. Work to the best of my ability every day.
  7. Complete make-up work within allotted time.
  8. Be alert in class and not sleep during class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date