

# Music Composition

## essential understanding

Students will develop a greater working knowledge of foundations of music and how to compose music



## overview

This course seeks to expand students' working knowledge of music and how to compose music. Through exploration and experimentation, students will familiarize themselves with different instrument sounds and musical styles. Students will learn to recognize foundational musical building blocks such as tempo, meter, tone, harmony, chords, and scales. Students will also focus on building their skills as a musician as they work to create and perform original music compositions.

## Guiding Question 1: How is music composed?

### lessons

- \_\_\_\_\_ Elements of Music
- \_\_\_\_\_ Styles of Music
- \_\_\_\_\_ Songwriting Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Creating Original Music

### group work

**Due Date: Oct. 30th**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Original Music Composition**- Groups or individuals will create an original music piece and present it to the class.

**This is the same assignment as the assessment (see directions below). Students can choose to complete their assessment as an individual or group assignment.**

### individual work

**Due Date: Sept. 18th**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Elements of Music** Students will complete *one of two* assignments below:

1. **Musical Showcase** - Students will create a music piece which focuses on showcasing the elements of music described below. Students will demonstrate knowledge of these elements of music by providing a written or oral explanation of how examples of each of the elements of music below can be found in their music piece.

OR

2. **Music Analysis** - Students will select a recorded song or music piece that showcases the elements of music described below. Students will demonstrate knowledge of these elements of music by providing a written or oral explanation of how examples of each of the elements of music below can be found in the song or music piece they selected.

Elements of music:

- |          |          |          |           |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| - rhythm | -harmony | -texture | -tone     |
| - tempo  | -melody  | -form    | -dynamics |

**Due Date: Oct. 16th**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Composition Analysis**- Students will choose from *one of two* assignments below.

1. **Good Music**- Students will choose two different music compositions which they consider to be 'good' music and complete a musical analysis of their selected music compositions. Students must choose

songs from two different music genres to analyze. Students will complete their musical analysis in two parts. What makes these compositions a 'good' songs?

- a. **Written Analysis-** Students complete 1-2 paragraph written analysis of their compositions. Within their written analysis students should comment on various elements of their composition such as instrumentation, genre, mood, keys and notes used, rhythm section, harmonic elements, melodic elements, etc.
- b. **Visual Analysis-** Students will complete a visual analysis of their compositions. Students can draw or create another visual representation of the song based on their own interpretation of the lyrics or song meaning

OR

2. **Bad Music-** Students will choose two music compositions which they consider to be 'bad' music and complete a musical analysis of their selected music compositions. Students must choose songs from two different music genres to analyze. Students will complete their musical analysis in two parts (the same parts as 'good' music assignment above). What makes these compositions 'bad' songs?

### assessment

**Due Date: Sept. 25th**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Chords & Scales-** Using any instrument of their choice, or music notation, or tablature/chord diagrams students will demonstrate knowledge (show and describe the sonic characteristics of):

- |                |                |                     |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| -a major scale | -a major chord | -a pentatonic scale |
| -a minor scale | -a minor chord | -a fifth interval   |

**Due Date: Oct. 30th**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Original Music Composition-** Groups or individuals will create an original music piece and present it to the class. Students may perform their composition live or present a recorded version if applicable. Each original piece must be pre-composed and rehearsed before the presentation date. Each member of the group must have an active role in the creation and presentation of the original song. (If groups would prefer to perform a cover song they must have it approved by Mr. Rigler first. All covers must contain substantial original composition ideas.)

**This is the same assignment as the group work assignment. Students can choose to complete their assessment as an individual or group assignment.**

## Google Classroom

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