



## Introduction to Music Technology

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### Course Description:

This course will develop student's understanding of music technology. Students will gain a basic proficiency and knowledge of music sequencing, digital synthesis, music notation and sampling as well as basic audio recording through interactive engagement with computer hardware, software and peripherals. Students will also continue to develop an appreciation of the fusion between music and technology in its cultural contexts through selected readings, listening and hands on assignments.

### The Academic Knowledge and Skills define our course objectives. While completing the requirements for this course, the student will:

#### A - Theory

- identify major and minor key signatures (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-1)
- identify treble and bass clefs (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-2)
- identify and write conventional rhythm and metric notations (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-3)
- identify cadences, nonharmonic tones and musical textures (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-4)
- employ tempo and dynamic terms in composition (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-5)
- recognize rhythmic patterns (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-6)
- identify music terminology and icons (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-7)
- identify major and minor scales and chords (GPS) (GSMC\_A2007-8)

#### B - Composition

- write conventional rhythmic and melodic examples (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-9)
- employ tempo and dynamic terms in a composition (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-10)
- create a short musical composition using a single staff (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-11)
- create harmonies for simple melodies (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-12)
- compose musical compositions for various performing ensembles (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-13)
- compose musical compositions using various 20th Century style techniques (GPS) (GSMC\_B2007-14)

#### C - Music Technology

- input a composition into notational software (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-15)
- print parts from a composition using notational software (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-16)
- create a multi-track sequence of musical form utilizing an introduction, main theme and ending (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-17)
- discuss concepts of MIDI, MIDI channels and standard MIDI files (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-18)
- explain the function of general MIDI, polyphony and multi-timbre as they apply to an electronic keyboard (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-19)
- assign sounds to different MIDI channels including various drum kits (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-20)
- describe the basic operation of notation software (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-21)
- apply various features such as changing clefs, time and key signature (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-22)
- edit tracks utilizing copy and paste of measures and staves (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-23)
- apply page layout features including title, composer and staff name (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-24)
- apply various editing features including articulations, slurs and dynamics (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-25)
- create a short musical composition using a single staff (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-26)

discuss the basic operation of sequencing software (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-27)  
demonstrate the function and tools of step/graphic editing window (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-28)  
explain the process of quantifying drum and other instrument tracks (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-29)  
edit tracks utilizing copy and paste of tracks, measures and MIDI events (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-30)  
utilize concepts of editing by applying various tempo features (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-31)  
demonstrate concepts of record features including overdub and punch in/out (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-32)  
mix tracks including adjusting volume levels, pan and equalization (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-33)  
mix tracks including automation of volume and pan (GPS) (GSMC\_C2007-34)

#### **D - Cultural and Historical Context**

describe and analyze a variety of careers and explore avocational and vocational possibilities related to music (GPS) (GSMC\_D2007-35)

#### **Materials required:**

- Students will be required to keep a folder with weekly assignments, project journals, notes, and vocabulary. These will be checked on a regular basis to determine daily average.
- Students will need a flash drive for backing up projects, files, and other data.
- Students will need to provide an audio CDR to record projects to use outside of the lab.
- Students will also need to have writing materials every day.
- Some material will be based on Handouts.

#### **Grading Scale, Assessment and Course Requirements:**

A = 90 – 100      B = 80 – 89      C = 74 – 79      D = 70 – 73      F = <70

#### **Daily grades**

Twenty - five percent of grade is based on project journals. (Daily log turned in biweekly)  
This will also include participation / class materials / notes

#### **Test grades**

Thirty percent of grade is based on tests (3 & 12 weeks), a mid term at the 9th week and 2 test projects.  
Make-up test from an excused absence will be accepted within 5 days of student's return.

#### **Project grades**

Twenty-Five percent of grade is based on class projects. (Usually weekly)  
The projects will consist of a recorded or printed musical example demonstrating a given set of criteria.

#### **Final Exam**

Twenty percent of grade is based on the final exam. (10 percent written & 10 percent performance)

#### **Intervention Times:**

After school until intervention time is concluded.

#### **Plagiarism Policy:**

Plagiarism is the act of stealing, using, and passing off another person's ideas or words as your own writing or ideas. Properly document the sources of information used for your research paper and essays so that you will not be guilty of plagiarism.

Honor Code violations of Research Papers and Essays:

1. Copying phrases, sentences, or paragraphs without using quotation marks and without giving proper documentation of the source.
2. Paraphrasing or summarizing ideas without giving proper documentation of the source.
3. asking someone or paying someone to write a research paper for you

4. Selling or giving an assignment to students who submit it as their own.
5. downloading from the Internet a research paper or article in its entirety or in part to submit as your own
6. submitting another student's research paper as your own work

#### **Gwinnett County Excused Absence Policy:**

Students who are granted **Excused Absent** status for days missed will be subject to the following:

- **All pre-assigned work will be due on the day of a student's return from an absence.**
- For **assignments which did not have a pre-assigned due date during the time of the student's absence**, students will be given five days to arrange for make up work or follow other arrangements granted by the teacher. All incomplete work carried over into a new marking period should be completed no later than the tenth day of the following period.

**Make-up work is not allowed for an unexcused absence, and zeros may be given for missed work.**

<p><b><u>UPON RETURNING TO SCHOOL, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN 5 DAYS TO MAKE UP WORK.</u></b></p>
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#### **Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

### **ONE RULE – RESPECT!**

- **Respect others:** Showing rudeness is disrespectful! Don't interfere with someone else's learning through conversations, etc. They might care about what's happening! Appreciate ALL differences in ALL people no matter how different they are!
- **Respect yourself:** Have enough self pride to try your hardest in! You're smart! USE YOUR BRAIN! You can do anything you want with your life if you want it bad enough!!
- **Respect your teacher:** Follow instructions, pay attention, and learn something from this person who has been around a little longer than you have ;- ) I'm *actually* trying to help you!! It's not some form of medieval torture.
- **Respect your surroundings/equipment:** Gum, food, and drinks cause a mess and are therefore restricted. Graffiti of any kind is disrespectful. Take care of your supplies. They're expensive!! **Students will be responsible for any for any damage to equipment due to negligence or abuse.**

**NO PHONE ZONE!** It's disrespectful to use a cell phone during instructional time. If your cell phone, mp3 player, videogame, or other electronic media device can be SEEN or HEARD during any instructional time (before or after school), it will result in an automatic referral to an administrator. Don't assume it's ok to use it... ask first.

Displays of disrespect will generally receive one warning, depending on the severity of the offense. Disciplinary steps appropriate to the offense will be taken afterward. See below for more details.

### **TEACHER CONSEQUENCES FOR MINOR CLASSROOM DISRUPTIONS**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Penalty assigned at teacher's discretion – Parent Contact
2 <sup>nd</sup>	30 minute teacher detention and parent contact
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 – 30 minute teacher detentions and parent contact
4 <sup>th</sup>	Administrative Referral

**ALL POLICIES OUTLINED IN THE GWINNETT COUNTY STUDENT DISCIPLINE HANDBOOK AND THE GSMST STUDENT HANDBOOK WILL BE FOLLOWED IN THIS CLASSROOM.**

#### **ACCEPTABLE USE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR STUDENTS (GCPS)**

Failure to follow the guidelines established in school policy and the Gwinnett County Public Schools Student Conduct Behavior Code will result in disciplinary action that may include restricted or denied access to school computers and other instructional technology tools.

Electronic Media Policy & Procedure information is provided in the Student Parent Handbook (GCPS), and Student Planner Agenda Book.

#### **LAPTOP CONTRACT FOR STUDENTS (GSMST)**

All GSMST students will be provided a computer laptop. Parents and students must sign a computer laptop contract in order to obtain the GSMST computer laptop. Students must follow the electronic media policy and procedures that are provided in the Student Parent Handbook (GCPS). Failure to do so could result in a loss of student GSMST computer laptop privileges.

#### **Laptop Usage Guidelines:**

Since the music tech lab is equipped with desktop computers students will generally not use their laptops. However students should come prepared with their laptops in order to install music software or access information from the GSMST server. Also students may backup class work to a flash drive and work on projects away from the lab on their laptop.

*The teacher of this course reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary during the semester. Both students and parents will be notified in writing if the change could alter a student's grade.*



I have read and understand the syllabus for Introduction to Music Technology.

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_