

The Rivers School Conservatory

Theory Curriculum

2009

Level 1:

Rhythm

Reading of simple and compound meter

Solfege

Major diatonic melodies that are predominantly stepwise.

Recognition of major and minor triads

Written

Note reading fluent in one clef

Diatonic intervals

Creative Work

Melodic construction

Level 2:

Rhythm

Reading and dictation of simple and compound meter with eighth note rests and dotted notes.

Solfege

Major diatonic melodies that are predominantly stepwise.

Syllabic singing (movable Do)

Recognize all triad qualities

Written

Note reading fluent in two clefs

Diatonic intervals

Major and minor Scales

Circle of 5ths (up to four sharps and flats)

Understanding basic chord labeling within a key- Roman Numerals

Creative Work

Melodic Construction

Composing a Song

Level 3:

Rhythm

Reading and dictation of simple and compound meter with 8ths, 16ths, triplets- rests and dotted notes

Solfege

Singing in all keys with stepwise motion
Major and minor diatonic melodies - predominantly stepwise motion
Syllabic singing (movable Do)
Recognize all triad qualities.

Written

Note reading fluent in two clefs
Diatonic and chromatic intervals
Major and minor Scales
Circle of 5ths
Understanding chord labeling within a key- Roman Numerals

Creative Work

Melodic construction
Composing a song
Harmonizing a melody

Level 4:

Rhythm

Reading and dictation of simple and compound meter with 8ths, 16ths, triplets note rests and dotted notes.

Solfege

Singing in all keys and modes with stepwise motion
Modal melodies
Syllabic singing (movable Do)
Recognize all triad qualities and basic seventh chords
Introduction to species counterpoint

Written

Note reading fluent in two clefs
Diatonic and chromatic intervals
Major and minor Scales
Understanding chord labeling within a key- Roman Numerals
Species counterpoint
Circle of 5ths
Basic roman numeral analysis

Creative Work

Melodic construction
Composing a song
Harmonizing a melody
Formal composing – variations, minuets, choral settings (4 part writing), waltz

Level 5:

Rhythm

Reading and dictation of simple and compound meter with 8ths, 16ths, triplets note rests and dotted notes with complex subdivisions

Solfege

Singing in all keys and modes
Syllabic singing (movable Do/Fixed Do)
Recognize all triad qualities and seventh chords
Species counterpoint
Chromatic melodies

Written

Note reading fluent in two clefs
Diatonic and chromatic intervals
Major and minor Scales
Roman numerals
Figured Bass
Species counterpoint
Circle of 5ths
Roman numeral analysis
Four-part writing

Creative Work

Melodic construction
Composing a song
Harmonizing a melody
Formal composing – variations, minuets, choral Settings (4 part writing), waltz
Improvising
Composing original complete works.

Level 6:

Rhythm

Reading and dictation of simple and compound meter with 8ths, 16ths, triplets note rests and dotted notes with complex subdivisions- polyrhythms

Solfege

Singing in all keys and modes
Syllabic singing (movable Do/Fixed Do)
Recognize all triad qualities and seventh chords
Species counterpoint
Chromatic melodies
Prepared atonal melodies
Listening to formal schemes in a larger work- historic conception

Written

Note reading fluent in two clefs
Diatonic and chromatic intervals
Major and Minor Scales
Roman Numerals
Figured Bass
Species Counterpoint
Circle of 5ths
Advanced analysis
Four-Part writing
Introduction to Set theory and 20th century techniques

Creative Work

Melodic construction
Composing a song
Harmonizing a melody
Formal composing – variations, minuets, choral settings (4 part writing),
waltz, figured bass, cadenza
Improvising
Composing original complete works
Fugue

Level 7:

AP Theory Test