

**TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Larkspur, California**

**Course of Study**

**Music Appreciation 1**  
**(5 units)**

Prerequisite: None

Music Appreciation is a course that introduces essential elements of music to the student who has no desire to participate in a singing or playing group in high school but who has an interest in music. An attempt is made to survey musical terms, devices, relationships, instruments music in our community, and types of musical groups; some attention is given to musical form and structure. Instruction takes the form of lectures, demonstrations, recordings, films, and class presentations.

Grading is based on class participation and performance on written tests.

Course Sequence: Terminal, but could lead to Beginning Chorus or other introductory music courses.

**I. OBJECTIVES:**

1. To teach students how to listen to music intelligently.
2. Expose students to as wide a variety of good music as it compatible with understanding. A balance between breadth and depth must be maintained.
3. Be carried out in a generally chronological succession of forms and styles.
4. Include the basic fundamentals of the musical language: notes, scales, rhythm, melody, harmony, instruments, etc.
5. Include some discussion of all western musical styles from Gregorian Chant to Jazz and contemporary serious music.

**II. CONTENT:**

1. Basic Musical Theory
  - a. Terms
  - b. Notation
  - c. Acoustical problems
2. Types of performing Groups
  - a. Vocal
  - b. Chamber groups
  - c. Band
  - d. Orchestra

3. Relation of Music and Society
  - a. Medieval
  - b. Renaissance
  - c. Baroque
  - d. Classic
  - e. Romantic
  - f. Modern
  
4. Development of Musical Instruments
  - a. Brass
  - b. Strings
  - c. Woodwinds
  - d. Percussion
  
5. Aural Musical Analysis
  - a. Styles
  - b. Forms

### **III. MATERIALS:**

1. Musical instruments
2. Recordings
3. Readings