

# Middle Ages (Gr. 7)

Content Area: **Instrumental Music**  
Course(s): **Generic District Course, Instrumental Music**  
Time Period: **Week 9**  
Length: **4 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Students will learn about musical elements of the Middle Ages, such as musical forms, composers, styles, etc.

## Standards

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VPA.6-8.1.1.8.B.2	Compare and contrast the use of structural forms and the manipulation of the elements of music in diverse styles and genres of musical compositions.
VPA.6-8.1.2.8.A.2	Differentiate past and contemporary works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art that represent important ideas, issues, and events that are chronicled in the histories of diverse cultures.
VPA.6-8.1.2.8.A.3	Analyze the social, historical, and political impact of artists on culture and the impact of culture on the arts.
VPA.6-8.1.3.8.B.1	Perform instrumental or vocal compositions using complex standard and non-standard Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation.
VPA.6-8.1.3.8.B.2	Perform independently and in groups with expressive qualities appropriately aligned with the stylistic characteristics of the genre.
VPA.6-8.1.3.8.B.3	Apply theoretical understanding of expressive and dynamic music terminology to the performance of written scores in the grand staff.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.1	Generate observational and emotional responses to diverse culturally and historically specific works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.2	Identify works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art that are used for utilitarian and non-utilitarian purposes.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.3	Distinguish among artistic styles, trends, and movements in dance, music, theatre, and visual art within diverse cultures and historical eras.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.4	Compare and contrast changes in the accepted meanings of known artworks over time, given shifts in societal norms, beliefs, or values.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.5	Interpret symbolism and metaphors embedded in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.6	Differentiate between “traditional” works of art and those that do not use conventional elements of style to express new ideas.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.A.7	Analyze the form, function, craftsmanship, and originality of representative works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.B.1	Evaluate the effectiveness of a work of art by differentiating between the artist’s technical proficiency and the work’s content or form.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.B.2	Differentiate among basic formal structures and technical proficiency of artists in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.6-8.1.4.8.B.3	Compare and contrast examples of archetypal subject matter in works of art from diverse

cultural contexts and historical eras by writing critical essays.

## **Essential Questions**

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- 1) How would you describe the Middle Ages?
- 2) How would you describe the difference between sacred and secular in relation to the music of the Middle Ages?

## **Application of Knowledge and Skills...**

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## **Students will know that...**

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- 1. aspects of the Middle Ages and how it relates to the music of the time.
- 2. how to form modes.
- 3. how to differentiate between sacred and secular.

## **Students will be skilled at...**

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- A. demonstrate their knowledge of the Middle Ages by playing examples correctly.
- B. form one of the seven modes and play it.
- C. identify the piece they are playing as sacred or secular and play the piece accordingly.

## **Assessments**

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- Unit Test Summative: Exhibition Students will take a unit test, consisting of written questions and performance of examples. 1.1.8.B.2 1.2.8.A.2 1.2.8.A.3 1.3.8.B.1 1.3.8.B.2 1.3.8.B.3 1.4.8.A.1-7 1.4.8.B.1 1.4.8.B.2 1.4.8.B.3
- Middle Ages Packet Formative: Other written assessments Students will complete a packet on the Middle Ages. The packet can be used as a study guide. 1.4.8.A.2 1.4.8.A.3 1.4.8.A.4 1.4.8.B.3
- Playing of Middle Ages Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples from the Middle Ages, adhering to the aspects of the time period. 1.1.8.B.2 1.2.8.A.2 1.2.8.A.3 1.3.8.B.1 1.3.8.B.2

1.3.8.B.3 1.4.8.A.1-7 1.4.8.B.1 1.4.8.B.2 1.4.8.B.3

- Pre-Assessment: How Would You Describe the Middle Ages? Diagnostic: Other written assessments  
Students will describe the characteristics of the Middle Ages. 1.2.8.A.2 1.2.8.A.3

## **Activities**

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- Middle Ages Packet
- Discussion, creating, and playing modes
- Playing of secular and sacred examples

## **Activities to Differentiate Instruction**

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- Tempo Variation - Students will play at slower tempo, written tempo, or faster tempo based on ability.
- Varied length of demonstrated examples - A student experiencing difficulty will play a segment of an example. A student who excels will play challenging examples.
- Varied Study Guide - A student experiencing difficulty comprehending the entire packet can be given a summative study guide instead.

## **Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction**

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- Sound Production and Pitch (Vocal Music, Science)
- Note Reading (Vocal Music)
- Note Values (Vocal Music, Math)

## **Resources**

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Standard of Excellence, Book 3

*Neil A. Kjos Music Company*