

# 14 Chorale Harmonization and Figured Bass

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **3 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **General Overview, Course Description or Course Philosophy**

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### **OBJECTIVES, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS, ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS**

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Figured bass was a compositional technique used in the Baroque Era that consisted of four-part chorale composition with basic voice-leading principles.

### **CONTENT AREA STANDARDS**

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VPA.1.1.12.B.1	Examine how aspects of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and harmonic progressions are organized and manipulated to establish unity and variety in genres of musical compositions.
VPA.1.1.12.B.2	Synthesize knowledge of the elements of music in the deconstruction and performance of complex musical scores from diverse cultural contexts.
VPA.1.1.12.B.CS1	Understanding nuanced stylistic differences among various genres of music is a component of musical fluency. Meter, rhythm, tonality, and harmonics are determining factors in the categorization of musical genres.
VPA.1.3.12.B.1	Analyze compositions from different world cultures and genres with respect to technique, musicality, and stylistic nuance, and/or perform excerpts with technical accuracy, appropriate musicality, and the relevant stylistic nuance.
VPA.1.3.12.B.2	Analyze how the elements of music are manipulated in original or prepared musical scores.
VPA.1.3.12.B.CS2	The ability to read and interpret music impacts musical fluency.
VPA.1.3.12.B.CS4	Basic vocal and instrumental arranging skills require theoretical understanding of music composition.

### **RELATED STANDARDS (Technology, 21st Century Life & Careers, ELA Companion Standards are Required)**

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LA.RH.9-10.3	Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; draw connections between the events, to determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.
LA.RH.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history and the social sciences; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
LA.RH.9-10.5	Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or

LA.RH.9-10.7	analysis.
SOC.9-12.1.1.2	Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text, to analyze information presented via different mediums.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Analyze how change occurs through time due to shifting values and beliefs as well as technological advancements and changes in the political and economic landscape.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS1	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
	Understand and use technology systems.

## **STUDENT LEARNING TARGETS**

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### **Declarative Knowledge**

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Students will understand:

- That every melody can be theoretically harmonized by using two processes for harmonization; Chord Progressions or Figured Bass.
- The numerical value and symbols used for Figured Bass "realization".
- How some chords sound better in a certain pattern, leading you to a predictable phrase cadence point.

### **Procedural Knowledge**

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Students will be able to:

- Compose four-part chorales using Baroque styles of composition.
- Understand and apply compositional guidelines for connecting SATB chords in Baroque four-part writing.
- Compose a four-part choral by “realizing” a figured-bass line.

## **EVIDENCE OF LEARNING**

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### **Alternate Assessments**

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- Individual Performances
- Group Performances
- Teacher/Student Conferences

## **Formative Assessments**

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- Aural Skills Assignments/Quizzes
- Listening Assignments
- Vocabulary Quizzes
- Class Discussion and Analysis
- Verbal Evaluation
- Composition/ Homework Assignment Evaluation and/or Performance
- Composition Performances

## **Summative Assessments**

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- Chapter Test/Quiz
- Aural Skills Tests

## **RESOURCES (Instructional, Supplemental, Intervention Materials)**

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### **Primary Texts**

Clendinning, Jane Piper, and Elizabeth West Marvin. The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis. New York: W. W. Norton, 2004.

Clendinning, Jane Piper and Elizabeth West Marvin. Anthology to Accompany The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis. New York: W. W. Norton, 2005.

Phillips, Joel, Jane Piper Clendinning, and Elizabeth West Marvin. The Musician's Guide to Aural Skills. Vol. 1. New York: W. W. Norton, 2005.

### **Technology Aids**

- Interactive Aural Skills and Music Theory exercises at [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com)
- Interactive Music Theory exercises at [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net)
- AP Music Theory Question Review at [www.albert.io](http://www.albert.io)

## **INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS**

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### **Social Studies**

Historical Research

## **Math**

Data Collection/Analysis

## **Technology**

Audio Media Analysis

## **Science**

Compare and contrast information gained from auditory or multimedia resources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS & MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBGROUPS**

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See link to Accommodations & Modifications document in course folder.