

**Lesson:** Mazurka Composition

October 25-31

**Subject:** AP Music Theory

**Class Description:** Grades 11-12, full class

**Duration of Lesson:** 4 days

**Lesson Rationale:** We'll be combining last week's lesson on chromaticism with our previous work on composition and form to compose pieces using chromaticism.

**Materials:**

Teacher: Whiteboard, markers, piano

Students: Manuscript paper, pencil, sheet music

**Objectives:**

- Students will be able to recognize Secondary Dominant 7<sup>th</sup> chords in music.
- Students will be able to write music using secondary dominant chords.
- Students will be able to compose basic piano accompaniments.

**New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards:**

STANDARD 1.1 (Aesthetics) All students will use aesthetic knowledge in the creation of and in response to dance, music, theater, and visual art.

STANDARD 1.2 (Creation and Performance) All students will utilize those skills, media, methods, and technologies appropriate to each art form in the creation, performance, and presentation of dance, music, theater, and visual art.

STANDARD 1.3 (Elements and Principles) All students will demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles of dance, music, theater, and visual art.

STANDARD 1.4 (Critique) All students will develop, apply and reflect upon knowledge of the process of critique.

STANDARD 1.5 (History/Culture) All students will understand and analyze the role, development, and continuing influence of the arts in relation to world cultures, history, and society.

**Procedure:**

Prior Knowledge: Secondary Dominant chords, melodic composition

Anticipatory Set: Brief review of chromatic chords.

Lecture:

10/25/11 – Mazurka Analysis:

Class will analyze Chopin's *Mazurka in E Minor*, using colored pencils to trace the individual voices in the accompaniment part in order to understand how the accompaniment works.

10/26/11 – Mazurka Composition - Harmony:

Students will create a chord progression for use in their Mazurka. For homework, they will compose an SATB chorale using this progression for use in their accompaniment.

10/27/11 – Mazurka Composition – Harmony, Melody:

Students will be checking each other's chorales for voice leading errors. Once this is finished, they will begin working on their melody, which will be due the following week.

10/31 – Mazurka Melody:

Students, having edited their melody for their Mazurka composition over the weekend, will work on creating an ornamented version.

Over the coming weeks, students will take turns using the computers in the office to input their compositions on Finale.

**Assessment:**

Teacher evaluation: Quality, creativity in compositions

**Vocabulary:** No new vocab

**Accommodations:**

None necessary for this lesson.