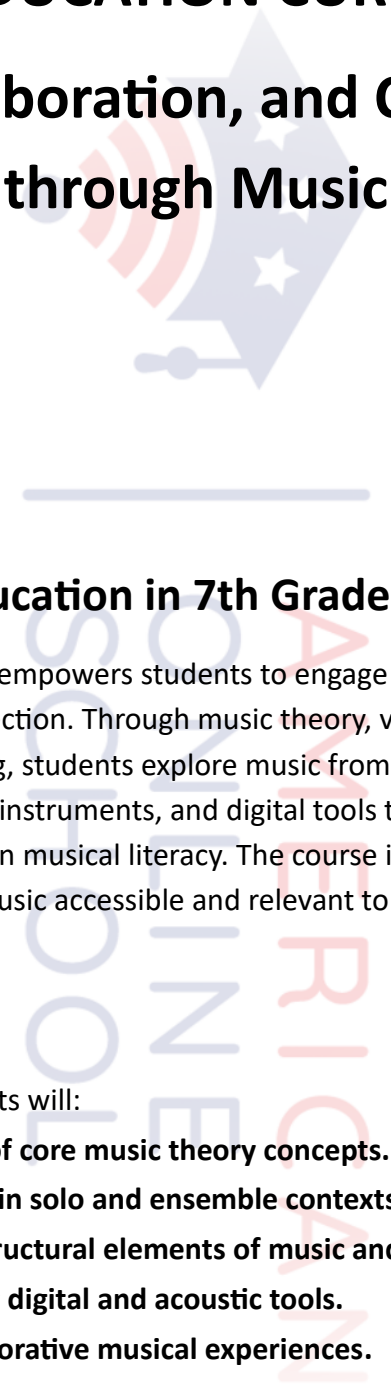


7th Grade American Online School

MUSIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Creativity, Collaboration, and Cultural Literacy through Music



Version May/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of Music Education in 7th Grade

The 7th Grade Music curriculum empowers students to engage deeply with music as a form of expression, reflection, and connection. Through music theory, vocal exploration, performance, composition, and critical listening, students explore music from diverse cultures and time periods. They learn to use voice, instruments, and digital tools to create and analyze music, building confidence and fluency in musical literacy. The course integrates karaoke, soundtracks, and inclusive projects to make music accessible and relevant to all learners.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Demonstrate understanding of core music theory concepts.
 - ✓ Sing and perform confidently in solo and ensemble contexts.
 - ✓ Analyze the emotional and structural elements of music and soundtracks.
 - ✓ Compose original works using digital and acoustic tools.
 - ✓ Participate in inclusive, collaborative musical experiences.
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2. Core Competence Areas

MUS.1 Music Theory and Listening Skills

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify and apply key elements of music theory.
- ✓ Read and notate rhythms, melodies, and harmonic structures.
- ✓ Analyze musical forms and stylistic features.

Competencies

MUS.1.A.1 – Understanding rhythm, pitch, and notation.

- Read basic staff notation, including note values, clefs, rests, and time signatures.
- Identify scales, intervals, and key signatures.

MUS.1.A.2 – Listening and analysis.

- Analyze musical form (binary, ternary, rondo, etc.).
- Describe dynamics, tempo, timbre, and texture using appropriate vocabulary.
- Compare and contrast musical genres and traditions.

MUS.2 Vocal Exploration and Performance

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use healthy vocal technique in a variety of performance styles.
- ✓ Interpret and perform vocal music with expression and accuracy.
- ✓ Participate in group singing and solo opportunities.

Competencies

MUS.2.A.1 – Developing vocal technique.

- Warm up correctly, use breath control, posture, and pitch matching strategies.
- Sing with attention to diction, phrasing, and tone quality.

MUS.2.A.2 – Performing for peers and community.

- Perform individual and group karaoke selections.
 - Reflect on performance skills and set personal growth goals.
 - Participate in a classroom concert or virtual showcase.
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MUS.3 Composition, Sound Design, and Technology

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Create original music using acoustic instruments and digital tools.
- ✓ Design music for emotional and narrative impact (e.g., soundtracks).
- ✓ Explore basic audio editing and layering techniques.

Competencies

MUS.3.A.1 – Composing original works.

- Use rhythm and melody to create short compositions or loops.
- Incorporate expressive markings and musical structure.

MUS.3.A.2 – Soundtrack and mood composition.

- Analyze how music affects mood in film, video games, and media.
 - Create a soundtrack for a short video or story scene.
 - Use platforms such as Soundtrap, BandLab, or GarageBand.
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MUS.4 Music for All: Collaboration and Cultural Engagement

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Participate in inclusive and community-building music experiences.
- ✓ Understand music as a reflection of identity, history, and society.
- ✓ Respect and engage with diverse musical traditions.

Competencies

MUS.4.A.1 – Making music together.

- Engage in rhythmic ensemble work using body percussion or classroom instruments.
- Arrange music in small groups and collaborate on live or recorded projects.

MUS.4.A.2 – Exploring cultural and social dimensions of music.

- Study songs and traditions from global cultures (e.g., Latin America, Africa, Asia).
 - Analyze protest songs, folk music, and cultural celebrations.
 - Participate in projects like “My Music Story” to connect personal identity and music.
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3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Process and Practice

- ✓ Music journals and rehearsal logs.
- ✓ Peer critique and self-assessment.
- ✓ Skill checks in theory, rhythm, and technique.

Summative Assessments – Performance and Creation

- ✓ Solo and group performances.
- ✓ Composition portfolios.
- ✓ Multimedia reflections on soundtrack projects.

Authentic Assessment – Real-World Expression

- ✓ Original song or remix project.
 - ✓ Community music showcase.
 - ✓ Cultural playlist and presentation with reflections.
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4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Experiential Learning

- ✓ Learn through improvisation, rehearsal, and reflection.
- ✓ Use real-world applications of music in film, culture, and communication.

Project-Based Learning (PBL)

- ✓ Design soundtrack projects, musical autobiographies, and ensemble performances.
- ✓ Use inquiry-based questions like “How does music move people?”.

Technology-Integrated Learning

- ✓ Compose and collaborate with Soundtrap, GarageBand, or BandLab.
- ✓ Record audio and create visual-audio projects with Canva or WeVideo.
- ✓ Access virtual instruments and tutorials.

Inclusive Learning Environment

- ✓ Safe, expressive, and inclusive space.
- ✓ Student-led warmups and co-creation of playlists.
- ✓ Encouragement of creative risk-taking and stylistic diversity.