Early Theory

The First Theorists

- Martianus Capella
  - The Marriage of Mercury and Philology (ca. 400)
    - Seven Liberal Arts (bridesmaids)
      - grammar
      - dialectic
      - rhetoric
      - geometry
      - arithmetic
      - astronomy
      - harmonics
    - Trivium (Verbal)
    - Quadrivium (Mathematical)

- Boethius (480-524)
  - De Institutione Musica (early 500's)
    - The Fundamentals of Music
    - Quadrivium
    - Compiled from Greek sources
    - Divides Music into Three Kinds:
      - Musica Mundana
      - Musica Humana
      - Musica Instrumentalis
      - audible
      - lowest category
Music was mainly an object of knowledge. Not a creative act of expression.

Later Theorists

- Always mentioned Boethius
- Boethius did not answer questions of:
  - notation
  - reading
  - classifying
  - singing
  - improvising
- Treatises now oriented toward practice