

Northview High School
Guitar I Syllabus 2011-2012
Aucoin & Clements – Instructors

1. Method Book

Hands On Training – First Year Guitar, Nancy Lee Marsters, Publishers - Class Guitar Resources.
Additional supplemental resources may be utilized.
Students are expected to have their instruments, music, necessary accessories and a pencil each day.

2. Course Description

Course goal: to provide a positive music learning experience for each student through the development of guitar skills. The course operates largely on an individual basis. In this manner, the varying degrees of ability can be effectively addressed. The main activities utilized to accomplish guitar learning are skill proficiencies, recitals, and written tests. The course is designed to provide an introduction to basic guitar skills and as a basis for further study should the student desire to continue.

3. Course Outline

- a. Tuning the guitar
- b. Proper position/technique
- c. Learn open and barred chords
- d. Note and rhythm reading
- e. Develop positive performance behaviors
- f. Study basic components of music; melody, harmony, and rhythm
- g. Develop values towards music
- h. Engage in guitar as performer and listener

The guitar curriculum is delivered in a sequential manner – moving from simple to more complex concepts. There is ample opportunity for practice and review in order for the student to gain understanding and appropriate skill development.

- More specific information may be found in the actual curriculum document which is on file in the instructor's office.

4. Grading Scheme

Guitar class grades are comprised of three categories:

- A. 50% = Skill Proficiencies/recitals
- B. 25% = Written Testing
- C. 10% = Time Usage
- D. 15% = Exam

5. Special Projects

Students may elect to participate in extra performance opportunities and, depending on the circumstance, may be awarded extra credit.

6. Homework Expectations

Homework assignments, which primarily consist of work sheets, will be a regular occurrence. The work sheets complement the performance aspect of the class.

7. Provision for Improving Grades (formerly known as the “recovery” policy) – Updated from Board Policy Docs – Aug 2011 - Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades. **For the complete recovery policy, visit the Student Handbook on www.northviewhigh.com.**

8. Honor Code: Cheating has been defined as giving or receiving information relating to a gradable experience including the use of sources other than those specifically approved by the teacher. Plagiarism and the related act of allowing another student to use one's work are not to be considered inconsequential pranks. Such acts involve serious moral implications; they constitute lying and stealing. They are unjust to teachers who spend valuable time evaluating the paper. They are ultimately harmful to the student committing the act, who is deliberately undermining his/her integrity, destroying his/her reputation, and breaking the trust that must exist between a student and teacher. An honor code violation results in a zero on the assignment, no opportunity to make up the work, no opportunity for recovery in the class, and disciplinary action. **For the complete honor code policy, visit the Student Handbook on www.northviewhigh.com.**

9. Technology Policy: Northview computers are only for school research and projects. The Internet may not be used for personal reasons. Any unauthorized use of the internet will be grounds for disciplinary and/or legal action as well as loss of Internet privileges. Attempts to log into the internet using another person's password, falsely posing as a school system administrator, or other security violations are grounds for termination of privileges and disciplinary measures. Computer vandalism (including food/drink in a lab) is prohibited and will result in immediate termination of Internet and computer access as well as appropriate disciplinary action. Violators are subject to criminal prosecution. **For the complete technology policy, visit the Student Handbook on www.northviewhigh.com.** It is a violation of the above policy

- to download or install any executable programs (such as games, MP3 players, video players, chat programs, FTP programs, music or video sharing programs, etc.) to a school computer, or on to any student's share folder (Z drive).
- to store any files (documents, pictures, videos, etc.) on any student's share folder (Z drive) that are not directly used in an assignment or teacher directed work; no personal documents, pictures, music videos or other files.
- to use the school computers and internet connection to access email, games, chat rooms, sharing sites, ecommerce sites, etc, unless specifically directed by the teacher.

10. Scheduled Help Sessions

Students may request help sessions Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. with a one day notice.

11. Teacher/Parent Communication

Parents will be notified by letter or telephone if their attention is required for assistance in student remediation or for notification of outstanding accomplishment. Conferences will be scheduled upon parental request.

12. Absence Make-Up Procedures

Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to request make-up work. Make-up work must be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. The student will receive the actual grade on the make-up work if the absence was "excused." Make-up work for "unexcused" absences may be reduced by 10 points. Make-up work submitted late will receive a zero.

13. Fees

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| 18 week lab fee | \$15.00 |
| 36 week lab fee | \$25.00 |

These fees cover the expenses of string replacement and instrument replacement for regular wear and tear.

14. Discipline Guidelines (Quick Version)

- a. Be on time.
- b. Remember instrument, music, pencil, and other accessories.
- c. Practice!
- d. Respect the rights of others.

15. Honor Code

As explained in the student handbook, cheating is defined as "the giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience." Violations of the honor code will result in a zero for the assignment, plus an honor code violation form placed in the student's disciplinary file. Read the handbook carefully to fully understand what constitutes a violation.

14. Parent Connect/Progress Reports

Parents are able to check student progress and assignment deadlines online in this and all Northview High School classes. The school will also issue progress reports every six weeks.