

# Guitar Class – Course Description

*Mr. Myers, Teacher*

**Prerequisite:** You must provide your own guitar. An acoustic guitar is required. Our book is: *Hal Leonard Guitar Method, Book 1* available at Northridge Music Center, Skip's Music, and Guitar Center.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an elective course offering beginning instruction for the guitar. You will learn open chords, power chords, moveable chords, accompaniment techniques, and a variety of playing techniques and styles, including both the pickstyle, and fingerstyle approaches to the guitar. The course also includes music fundamentals, theory, songs, performance, listening, composing, improvising, analyzing, and learning how to read standard music notation, and tablature.

## GOALS

1. To learn how to play chords, accompaniment and melodies on the guitar.
2. To learn how to read music notation, chord frames, and tablature.
3. To develop an understanding of music fundamentals and theory.
4. To learn how to perform, write, and create music.
5. To develop the ability to analyze, describe, and listen to music.
6. To develop the ability to match pitch and sing on pitch.
7. To develop an understanding of music as it relates to history and culture.

## EVALUATION

Grades in this class will be determined on the following basis:

1. Weekly practice records
2. Day to day participation, attitude, and effort
3. Individual playing and performance tests
4. Group performance tests
5. Successful completion of various Achievement Standards
6. Objective tests on the fundamentals of music
7. Maintaining a notebook
8. Solo and small group performances before the class
9. Working up to your ability – based on the teacher's evaluation of your musical aptitude.
10. The school tardy and attendance policy as it pertains to grades.
11. Project, or performance critique (More information later)

## NOTEBOOKS

You will be receiving a number of handouts in this class including worksheets, songsheets, notesheets, tablature lessons, improvisations, scales, chords, etc. Therefore, you must maintain a separate notebook. A three-hole binder is recommended and should be organized as follows:

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Course Outline</b>  | This page  |
| <b>Assignment Page</b> | To keep track of group and individual assignments  |
| <b>Chords</b>          | beginning, intermediate, and advanced (movable forms)  |
| <b>Notation</b>        | notesheets, tabsheets, and handouts dealing with rhythms, scales, sight reading, and ensembles |
| <b>Songs</b>           | songsheets organized numerically, and alphabetically   |

**Theory** worksheets and tests

There will be periodic notebook checks. Have your notebook ready for your first check by \_\_\_\_\_.

The **Deadline** for having your guitar in class is **Monday, August 8**.