



Baldwin-Whitehall School District

Baldwin High School

Course Syllabus

TITLE: Intro to Guitar

Credit/Term: 1/ year

Course Number:

Grade Level: 9-12

Intro to Guitar is a beginning guitar course designed for musical novices with no prior experience. Students need not own a guitar to participate. Popular songs serve as a vehicle for students to learn performance skills and gain knowledge which will enable them to continue to grow as guitarists after completion of the course. Chord/lead sheets and guitar tab are both utilized during the course and the History of Rock & Roll is touched on a frame of reference for our song selections throughout the year.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Mr. Gregory Steele

gsteele@bwschools.net

412-885-7500 x6412

Remind: Text @BHSGuit101 to 81010

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

The students taking the course will be expected to:

- Attend class daily
- Participate in class discussion and activities
- Use time wisely when given time to prepare individually
- Complete all in and out of class assignments
- Complete all playing tests
- Complete writing projects
- Make up work when absent – it is your responsibility to find out what you missed!

STANDARDS/BENCHMARKS

Essential Skills

The students will be able to:

- Identify the parts of the guitar
- Tune their guitars using a tuner
- Play the guitar using proper technique and posture
- Understand basic guitar notation including chord symbols and tab
- Understand and correctly perform major, minor, seventh, minor seventh, and sus4 chords
- Understand and correctly perform a variety of scales
- Understand and be able to perform from a lead sheet
- Perform a variety of strumming and picking patterns
- Understand musical forms, including the 12 bar blues

EVALUATION and ASSESSMENT

- **Class participation**
- **Independent practice**
- Quizzes
- Playing evaluations
- Semester exam (Mid-Term)
- **Class participation**
- **Independent practice**
- Writing assignments
- Final project
- Final exam
- **Class participation**
- **Independent practice**

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS & CONSEQUENCES

Student will be expected to:

- Be respectful of all
- Follow all procedures and instructions
- Try their best and focus on the task at hand

Consequences for failing to meet these expectations can include a verbal warning, a 20 minute band detention, and/or disciplinary referral

PROCEDURES

- Guitarists should enter class and have a seat
- When the bell rings, students will move in small groups to the guitar room and carefully retrieve their assigned guitar
- Once students acquire their instruments they should have a seat and begin the daily "Go" activity
- Students should hold their guitars at all times; when not being played, guitars should be placed in their cases
- After class, students will return their instruments in groups, carefully placing them in the correct place in the storage room, in the correct order
- Cell phones (photos, texting, calls) and food are not permitted during class
- Agendas will be used when students must leave class; you **MUST** speak to Mr. Steele and get his signature before leaving the class for any reason
- Class participation and ***focused, independent practice*** are keys to success in guitar class!