

Beginning Guitar Course Syllabus, Fall 2018

Mrs. Amelia Armstrong

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Class Website: www.plattevilleguitar.weebly.com

Materials (provided): student classical guitar, foot stool, lesson book, folder, picks
*Three new Yamaha guitars were funded by the **Platteville Community Fund**.
Three new Yamaha guitars were funded by the **Platteville Music Boosters**.
Foot stools, picks, and guitar hanging brackets were funded by the **Platteville Community Fund**.
Lesson books, restringing, and teacher curriculum development were provided by the **Platteville School District**.*

Lesson Book: Essential Elements for Guitar, Book 1. Will Schmid and Bob Morris.
Published by Hal Leonard Corporation.

Grading:

- 30% Daily Participation, Practice. Actively engaged in playing during class.
Practicing outside of class at least 30 minutes per week at home or school.
Submitting weekly practice logs.
- 30% Music Skills and Standards. Short playing quizzes, Guitarist Profiles, guitar app reviews, songs by ear, choice pop songs
- 30% Written Quizzes. Short assessments of guitar knowledge and theory, including standard notation, tablature, chord diagrams, chord progressions, and music symbols.
- 10% Final Exam Playing Tests. Assigned pieces played as solos or small groups.

Practicing:

Beginning Guitar students are expected to practice outside of class for one 30-minute session each week. This can occur at school during a study hall, Pride Time, before or after school; or at home on their own instrument. School guitars must remain in the music area at all times. Practice logs are due each Friday via Google Form on the website.

Instrument Care:

Guitars and accessories must remain in the PHS music area at all times. Students may only use their assigned equipment during class and practice times. Students are expected to take great care of all equipment throughout the assigned semester. A parent-signed equipment usage form must be on file within the first week of class.

Guitar Open Lab:

Mrs. Armstrong is available to assist guitar students during 8th hour on Grey Days, the opposite day our class meets. This is a great time to come down and practice or to seek extra help. Playing quizzes may be scheduled during this time.

Beginning Guitar Course Syllabus, Fall 2018, continued

Week / Topics (dates are approximate and subject to change)

- 1 Equipment distribution. Class syllabus. Materials contract. Parts of guitar, playing positions, resting position, note reading, string numbers/names, LH numbers, RH letters, decoding chord diagrams
- 2 String name drills, notes vs. chords, styles of guitar music, frets, fretbox, tuning pegs, rhythmic notation, strumming pattern, pick grip, 3-string C and G7, pick vs. fingers, LH finger arch, thumb placement, rest stroke vs. free stroke ***Written Quiz 1**

Week Topics

- 3 1st string notes E/F/G, 4-string D7, chord change practice, 2nd string notes B/C/D, ***Playing Quiz 1**
- 4 Down-up pick strokes, chord progression I-IV-V7-I, 3rd string notes G/A, review of notes GABCDEFG, chords Em, 5-string C, 6-string G, G7, chord change practice
- 5 Solos and duets, music reading review, playing notes on strings 1-2-3, syncopated strumming patterns ***Playing Quiz 2**
- 6 4th string notes D/E/F, review of notes DEFGABCDEFG, chords D, A7, chord change practice, strumming pattern review
- 7 Bass/strum in 4/4 and 3/4, 5th string notes A/B/C, review of notes ABCDEFGABCECFG, chords Em7, Am, practice chord changes ***Playing Quiz 3**
- 8 6th string notes EFG, review 1st position scales from 6/0 to 1/3, In-class practice of melodic duets, chord strum solos ***Written Quiz 2 *Quarter Playing Test**
- 9 Intro to fingerstyle, PIMA, arpeggios, rest-stroke vs. free-stroke, chord change practice, 1st string notes A/B, adding #s & bs, chromatic scale ***Written Quiz 3**
- 10 Accompanying with arpeggios, fingerstyle Bass/strum, selecting PIMA patterns ***Playing Quiz 4**
- 11 Chords A, Dm, shuffle strum, chord change practice, alternate picking review
- 12 Nov. 28-Dec. 2
Chords E, review chords G,C,D7,Am,Em,Dm,A,E,Am7,D,E; review strumming, picking, fingerstyle ***Playing Quiz 5**
- 13 Power chords E5, A5, D5, rock, 12-bar blues, intro to TAB, 5th string note C#
- 14 Chords B7, E7, chord change practice, duets and trios
- 15 Transposing using a capo, intro to barre chords, overview of bass guitar
- 16 Review, practice ***Final Exam – Rhythm and Bass/Strum, PIMA, Lead**
- 17 Review, practice ***Final Exam – Duets and Trios**

*Students may move through the course at different rates. If you are in need of challenge materials or more help to complete a section, please speak with Mrs. Armstrong.