

Beginning Guitar Syllabus



Northwood High School
Mr. Brett Cox

Introduction

The purpose of this syllabus is to provide both the students and parents with information about this Guitar Class here at Northwood High School. It will introduce you to the guidelines that are necessary to give the students the most beneficial musical experience.

Please read the entire packet carefully and complete the necessary forms.

If you should have any questions about the contents of this handbook, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Brett Cox
Northwood High School
School Phone: (919) 542-4181 ext. 34302
Email: mbcox@chatham.k12.nc.us

Guitar Class

The guitar classes at NHS are used to introduce guitar playing to students who have never played before. Guitar playing will be used as a means of teaching the North Carolina Essential Standards for 9-12 Music. Class time will include playing, listening to, and then responding to various genres of music from the past to the present.

Guitars

The guitars used in this class are owned by the school. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that the guitars are kept in good condition and are cared for properly. If a student damages the instrument by not following the classroom expectations, then the student will be liable to pay the cost to repair that instrument. Acknowledging the course syllabus by returning the signature page signifies that you recognize this and are willing to pay for repairs or replacement, if needed. If a student in class owns a guitar and would like to bring it to school to use, we will be happy to let them do this. However, the school will take no responsibility for loss of or damage to that instrument while here at school.

Class Requirements

1. Three-ring binder, any size
2. Notebook paper
3. Pencils (NO PENS!)
4. Guitar Picks (these can be found in bulk on Amazon, or at a local music store)

School Expectations

All expectations outlined by Chatham County Schools and Northwood High School are applicable.

Classroom Expectations

1. Students will be in their chairs with a pencil and instrument by the beginning of class or they will be considered tardy. Any other materials will be placed under the chairs, and will stay there until the end of class.
2. Students will raise their hand to be recognized before speaking.
3. No food, drink, or gum is allowed in the room. Dispose of these things before class.
4. The students will be given 3 minutes before the end of class to carefully collect their belongings and prepare for class change. Students will return their guitar to Mr. Hanson's room during the class change.
5. Make sure that all restroom and office visits are taken care of BEFORE class starts, as there will be minimal passes in the class.

Department Expectations

All Arts classes at Northwood High School are considered co-curricular. The teacher reserves the right to require performances outside of the standard school day. Department policy dictates that students unable to fulfill this requirement will be offered the opportunity to make up the requirement by writing a paper. The length of the paper will be four pages for every outside requirement missed, and the teacher will choose the subject of the paper. Students will be notified of any outside requirements at least one month in advance.

Grading Policy

It is important to understand that the grading policy of this class is intended to measure achievement and progress.

The composite grade of each student is determined in the following manner:

1. Attendance/Attitude/Growth (40% of grade)
Each student is encouraged to exhibit leadership in the classroom by supporting their classmates, demonstrating an effort to learn, bringing all materials, and attending each class. Excellent attendance is both promoted and expected. Unexcused absences will result in a student not receiving credit for that day. Failure to comply with classroom procedure will result in not receiving credit for that day.
2. Projects (20% of grade)
Over the course of the semester, students will be given long-term assignments that integrate guitar skills with general music theory. Some projects will incorporate the use of music technology. These projects are the best indication of how the student grasps music as a whole.
3. Classwork and Homework (20% of grade)
General Music classwork and homework assignments will be administered as needed. These will be graded assignments and will reflect knowledge of music history, theory, and general performance.
4. Performance Evaluations (20% of grade)
Guitar Performance evaluations will be administered as needed. These will be graded assignments and assess the progress students make in their ability to play guitar.

The grading scale is a 10-point scale. Grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number to determine letter grade. There will be no opportunities for extra-credit to round a grade up or for any other reason.

Dear Parents,

Please read the Syllabus located at:

www.nhsbands.net

Let me know if you have any questions or comments. **Please fill out the Google Form located on the website as well.**

It is my goal to help give your child a well-rounded education in the fundamental methods and techniques of music. I hope that your child will leave my class with an appreciation and understanding of music that can be carried out for further growth. In order to give your child the best opportunity to succeed in my classroom, I also ask for your support and encouragement at home. Together, we can help your child reach his/her greatest potential.

Please sign your name below indicating your knowledge of the content and objective of this syllabus. Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to your support and involvement throughout the school year!

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Email (for future updates)

Dear Guitar Student,

Please read this Guitar Syllabus thoroughly and carefully. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments regarding this packet. You will be responsible for abiding by the content of this packet over the course of the year, so it is important that you understand its instructions.

Please read the following statement, and sign your name on the line provided.

“By signing my name below, I am stating that I have read the Guitar Syllabus and will do my best to follow its instructions.”

Signature of Guitar Student

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY BOTH THE STUDENT AND PARENT AND RETURNED BY SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2017.