

Overton High School  
Guitar I & II; Strings  
2023-2024  
Mr. Travis Roberson

**Course Description:**

This course covers the basics of the instrument and an application of essential music fundamentals. Students will learn the basics of playing guitar at a beginning level through studying music notation, chord symbols, and peer modeling. A brief history of the instrument along with a study of its respective musical styles will also be covered in this course.

The main objective of this course is to create an enhanced appreciation for music through playing the instruments. Students will learn how to read music notation, chord symbols, and tablature. Students will also gain a better understanding of many different musical genres.

**Music Education Standards:**

These courses are designed with the following artistic processes according to the National Standards in Music:

1. **PERFORM** (Sing, Play, and Read) - Includes selecting, analyzing, interpreting, developing and refining, and conveying meaning through presentation.
2. **CREATE** (Improvise and Compose) - Includes generating and conceptualizing, organizing and developing, and refining and completing.
3. **RESPOND** (Listening and Analyzing) Includes perceiving and analyzing artistic work, interpreting intent and meaning, and applying criteria to evaluate.
4. **CONNECT** (Connect Historical) - Includes synthesizing and relating knowledge and personal experiences, and relating artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.

**GRADING POLICY**

It is important that all assignments are completed and that students attend classes. All work is a simple accumulation of points. If you do the work, you really don't even need to worry about your grade - it will be fine (I promise).

**DAILY MATERIALS**

It is STRONGLY advised students keep a folder, notebook, or 3 ring binder to collect and contain all work, music, and other important information for this course. Occasionally, Mr. Roberson will conduct material checks to ensure each student keeps track of assignments.

**Work Includes:**

Bell Work/Daily Grades  
Weekly Playing Grades  
Quizzes  
Projects/Homework Assignments  
Exams

## **ATTENDANCE:**

### **1. Absences**

- **Unexcused** - Not approved through the office. The “daily grade” for these absences CANNOT be made up, but any missed work must be completed within three days of absence. More than 10 unexcused absences will result in disqualification for any extracurricular activities.
- **Excused** - if an absence is “excused”, there is no grade penalty; however, excessive absences will impact the grade. Please check PowerSchool, and if a grade doesn’t look right, connect with Mr. Roberson so a correction can be made.

### **2. Not Participating/Sleeping**

This will be counted as an unexcused absence, and will not be tolerated.

Guitar class is a participation based course, that requires performing on your instrument. Therefore, participation is required in each class.

### **3. Missing Class**

Missing class will also be counted as an unexcused absence and any students found to be “skipping” will be reported to administration. This includes being “out-of-area” without permission, or proper hall pass.

## **FINAL EXAM**

This course will include a Final Exam in both Semester 1, and Semester 2. The **Final Exam** will cover material studied specific to each Semester. There will be a review day(s) for each Semester, and If you miss your Final Exam, there is a make-up day built in for safety.

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

Extra Credit is not offered, as it is not needed when the work is done as assigned. You do not have the option of making poor grades, then doing a make-up assignment to make up the grade for the work you did not do, or completed poorly. If you are truly doing your best, but struggling, and feel that you need extra credit, talk to me. At Overton High, the consequence of not doing your work is doing your work. In other words, not completing an assignment is not an option.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

Email - My email is [RobersonT1@scsk12.org](mailto:RobersonT1@scsk12.org). This is the best way to get in touch with Mr. Roberson. Please contact me if you have any concerns. Likewise, I will have contacts through PowerSchool for student and parent communication purposes. The teacher also reserves the right to revisions of this document at any time.

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

- **Be on time!**
- **Be respectful!**
- **Listen Up!** Do not speak while the instructor is speaking or giving instruction.
- **Cell Phones** - Cell phones are not to be used inside the classroom. There will be times where usage of devices ARE permitted, with instructor approval. Continuous usage of devices (without permission) in class may result in confiscation of devices.

- **Chairs** - Depending on the daily agenda, the classroom chairs may be set out in advance. These should **NOT** be moved as they are specific for the daily tasks.
- Have your materials **EVERY** day (i.e. notebook/paper, pen/pencil, electronic devices when needed, and keep track of these resources. (folder/3 ring notebook)
- Read the whiteboard for daily activities and agenda, and read all directions carefully.
- **NO FOOD/DRINK** is allowed in the classroom. (water with a lid is permitted)
- **Bathroom Pass** - With permission, students may use the restroom. In order to use the restroom, students must carry the hall pass on their person. In order to return back to the classroom, the hall pass **MUST** return. Students who are tardy to class may **NOT** request a pass out.
- A **15/15** minute rule will be in effect during class time. Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class (this includes the bathroom pass)

### **INSTRUMENTS:**

- Instrument care will be addressed throughout the course.
- Each instrument should be treated as your own. Treat them with care!
- Each guitar (and case) has a number. Everyone will be assigned their instrument, and a number. Depending on class size, we may need to use a buddy system in order for EVERYONE to have instrument time.
- Each guitar should be returned to the original case after EACH class. These will be returned to their shelf in the proper numbered slot.

### **CONSEQUENCES:**

- 1st incident - Warning given; documentation made
- 2nd incident - Documentation made; parent/guardian contacted
- 3rd incident - Documentation made; parent/guardian contacted; office notified
- 4th incident - Administrative action

I have read the syllabus for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year and understand the terms outlined in this document. I also acknowledge that I have been briefed on this document in addition to reading it during class time. I agree to follow all rules and procedures contained in the syllabus. I understand that the Teacher reserves the right to make any revisions to the syllabus throughout the school year, and these edits will be updated online.

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Name

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Date