

## **Course Description**

Intermediate Class Guitar is a one-semester course that offers the intermediate guitarist instruction in playing techniques, reading guitar notation & tab, crafting melodies, playing chords, and focused study in a specialized technique. Students will review guitar performance basics and blues styles, cover basic rock techniques, and undertake a specialized study in a genre of their choice. Intermediate guitar students will have the opportunity to prepare a program of songs for performance. Students should provide their own instruments.

## **Unit 1- Basic/Blues Guitar Techniques Review**

The Basic/Blues Guitar Review Unit will refamiliarize students with the construction and function of the acoustic instrument, guitar music notation & nomenclature, and fundamental playing techniques including chording and single note melody performance. Daily review topics will be presented through the Garage Band lesson suite including explanation and demonstration of specific skills followed by independent practice. Learning will be assessed through computer assisted play-along drills, and individual coaching session the review. Students will perform for the computer based assessment tool in Garage Band daily, which will measure their mastery of each skill in terms of rhythmic and tonal accuracy. Should students need additional help, practice, or instruction in each topic, they will have access to video lessons and practice drills embedded in the Garage Band software as well as individual coaching session with the course instructor.

### **Topic**

### **Topic Interim Assessment**

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Intro To Guitar          | E Major Chord Strumming pattern P.E.                               |
| 2. G & C Chords             | G & C Chord Strumming Pattern P.E.                                 |
| 3. A & D Chords             | A, D, & E Chord Strumming Pattern P.E.                             |
| 4. Minor Chords             | Minor Chord Strumming Pattern P.E.                                 |
| 5. Single Note Melodies     | Melody in G P.E.   |
| 6. Power Chords             | Power Chord Rock Chart P.E.  |
| 7. Major Barre Chords       | 12 Bar Blues Bar Chords P.E.                                       |
| 8. Minor Barre Chords       | Arpeggiated Shuffle Tune P.E.                                      |
| 9. Blues Lead               | Blues Shuffle Chord Changes P.E.<br>Blues Shuffle Melody Line P.E. |
| 10. 12 Bar Blues in A       | Dominant 7 Blues progression P.E.                                  |
| 12. Minor Pentatonic Scale  | A Pentatonic Rhythmic Scales P.E.                                  |
| 13. Rhythm Riffs            | A Blues Riffs P.E.   |
| 14. Blues in G, Bb, & E     | Blues Rhythm Riffs P.E.  |
| 15. Bends and Vibrato       | A Blues Licks and Solo P.E.  |
| 16. Hammers, Pulls & Slides | E Blues Head and Solo P.E.   |
| 17. Blues Scale and Bends   | Lead Licks in E P.E.   |

## **Unit 2- Rock Guitar Techniques**

The Rock Guitar Unit will introduce students to the tonal palette and stylistic idiosyncrasies of Rock Guitar, Week long topics will be presented through daily lessons including explanation and demonstration of specific skills followed by guided practice and coaching. Learning will be assessed through structured independent practice, computer assisted play-along drills, and individual coaching sessions throughout the topic week. At the conclusion of each topic, students will perform for a computer based assessment tool in Garage Band, which will measure their mastery of each skill in terms of rhythmic and tonal accuracy. Should students need additional help, practice, or instruction in each topic, they will have access to video lessons and practice drills embedded in the Garage Band software.

### **Topic**

1. Power Chords and Palm Muting
2. Suspended Chords and Arpeggios
3. Dropped D Tuning and Heavy Riffs
4. Melodies and 2-Note Chords
5. Classic Riffs

### **Topic Interim Assessment**

D Rock Progression  
A Rock Progression  
Metal Guitar Progression  
2-Note Chord Melody Cycle  
Page, Richards, Hendrix Tunes

## **Unit 3- Players' Choice Guitar Techniques & Recital Preparation**

The Player's Choice Unit will provide guitar students the time and structure to study a music genre, technique, or artist of their choosing, and then prepare a brief recital to demonstrate those techniques to the class. Students will find and secure learning materials (texts, recordings, online resources, etc.) with the help and approval of the instructor. Learning will be assessed through structured independent practice, coaching sessions, periodic check-in recordings and practice logs throughout the unit. At the conclusion of the unit, students will perform a recital for the combined guitar class describing and demonstrating their study.

### **Topic**

1. Genre & Resource Selection
2. Artist Research
3. Technical Development
4. Repertoire Selection
5. Practice Structure

### **Topic Interim Assessment**

Reporting of genre & resources  
Discography of artist recordings  
journal, lessons, recordings, logs  
Recital program  
Journal, lessons, recordings, logs

## **Semester Exam (Summative Assessment)**

Students will perform a brief recital program exhibiting skills and techniques that they developed in their specialized study of specific guitar technique. Musicians will describe and perform these techniques for the class at the final exam period concluding the semester. The instructor will assess the recital using a performance rubric.

## **Class Guitar Grading**

- 30% Daily Rehearsal Skills  
30% Weekly Playing Exams  
30% Summative Assessment  
10% Rehearsal Log