Michael McDowell 414 351-8172 michael.mcdowell@nicolet.us Office Hours: 10:50-11:30 daily

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 as well as blues styles or basic rock techniques, and undertake a specialized study in a genre of their choice. Intermediate guitar students will have the opportunity to prepare a piece for performance. Students should provide their own instruments.

Materials & Resources

Although Intermediate Guitar students are encouraged to bring their own guitars to class, Nicolet does have electric guitars available for student use. In addition, Nicolet provides tuners, binders, lesson note forms, and picks. Students will also access E-wing music lab computers for online instruction, lesson review, practice, and playing assessments as well as retrieval of recital resources including online guitar tablature and instructional playing videos.

Assessment/Grading Policy

Rehearsal Binder-25%

Students will keep lesson notes and other playing resources in their rehearsal binder to be checked periodically throughout the semester.

GarageBand Playing Technique Assessments-25%

Following group instruction and individual practice time, students will perform playing assessments in the E-wing practice rooms on music department computers. After they achieve a benchmark score on the computer graded exercise, students will submit a screenshot image to the instructor for credit.

Recital Preparation-35%

Following review of basic & blues techniques and rock instruction, students will study music of their choosing and then prepare a brief recital to demonstrate those techniques to the class.

Summative Performance Assessment-25%

At the conclusion of the unit, students will perform a live recital or submit a recorded video which will be evaluated with a guitar performance rubric.

Grading Scale

The numeric value indicates the lowest possible score for the designated letter grade.

A+	A	A-	B+	В	B-	C+	С	C-	D+	D	D-	F
97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0

Class Expectations

- -Arrive to class on time. (in the rehearsal room when the bell rings)
- -Set up equipment (binders & instruments) and be ready to play two minutes after the bell rings.
- -Have your equipment in class in good playing condition
 - -Woodwind-always have at least two reeds broken in and ready to play
 - -Brass-Keep your valves lubricated and be ready with mutes or other accessories when appropriate.
 - -Percussion-set up equipment for rehearsal repertoire at the beginning of class. Have appropriate sticks and mallets in your possession.
- -Participate in Daily Warm up exercises
- -Participate in Daily Performance Repertoire Rehearsal by following along with group activities and playing when directed to do so.
- -Put forth your best effort with posture, tone production, blending, balance, expressiveness, etc.
- -Pay attention to instruction directed at your section and at others.
- -Avoid excessive talking during instruction.
- -Remain in your assigned area and be ready to play throughout the rehearsal
- -Be cooperative with the director and other ensemble members in all rehearsal situations.
- -Remain seated and attentive through the end of rehearsal.
- -Pack up and store all of your equipment including instruments, binders, mutes, and miscellaneous papers in the appropriate areas.

Units of Study

Basic Guitar Review

Students will review the basic elements of guitar performance including open-string major and minor chords, single note melodies, power chords, and major & minor barre chords

Blues Guitar Review

Students will review how to play elements of blues guitar including 7th chords, minor pentatonic & blues scales, rhythm guitar, blues melody, and bassline riffs, as well as playing techniques including bends, vibrato, hammers, pulls, and slides.

Rock Guitar

Students will learn the tonal palette and stylistic idiosyncrasies of Rock Guitar in daily lessons including explanation and demonstration of specific skills followed by guided practice and coaching. Learning will be assessed through structured independent practice and computer assisted play-along drills. At the conclusion of each topic, students will perform a computer based assessment in GarageBand, which will measure their mastery of each skill in terms of rhythmic and tonal accuracy.

Independant Recital Preparation

The recital preparation unit will provide guitar students the time and structure to study a music genre, technique, or artist of their choosing, and then prepare a recording 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 prepare a recording demonstrating their learning.

Outcomes

MP1.Cr.16.h: Arrange short pieces using standard and/or alternative notation with symbols and/or technology means using specified guidelines to demonstrate creativity in the elements of music.

MP2.P.27.h: Discuss own ideas and feedback of others to develop and implement strategies to address technical challenges.

MP1.Cr.14.h: Improvise rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic variations in a variety of genres while following a harmonic progression in a specified style of music.

MP2.P.25.h Rehearse and demonstrate the ability to sing and/or play expressively, on pitch, in rhythm, and with proper technique and maintaining a steady beat.

MP2.P.26.h Perform using expressive qualities and techniques with the composer's intent.

MP2.P.29.h: Interpret and perform music from aural traditions and through standard and nonstandard notation with stylistic accuracy.

Short-Term Virtual Learning Information

If Nicolet shifts to a virtual learning day because of weather or other short-term reason, we will continue our learning on Canvas. All the information that you will need for this class on a virtual learning day will be found

in the announcement that will appear in our Canvas course. You must submit the work assigned for this day by 11:59 to verify your attendance, but we encourage you to begin your work early enough so that you can use the designated office hour time during the school day for any questions that you might have.

AI (Artificial Intelligence) and Academic Integrity

Nicolet High School commits itself to excellence and equity by intentionally engaging students in achieving personal success and contributing to the local and global economy. Academic integrity is vital to this commitment. Therefore, student work must be the student's own and completed in accordance with the District's academic integrity expectations. Students may not engage in unauthorized collaboration or utilize ChatGPT or additional Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools. Students MUST obtain permission from their TEACHER before using an artificial intelligence (AI) tool for coursework. Using AI tools without permission is viewed as a violation of the District's Academic Integrity Policy.