2023-2024 Course Expectations

Mr. Gonzalez
Beg. Mariachi Guitar
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Course Description:

This one-year course is designed for students with no previous Mariachi guitar/vihuela experience. Students will receive guidance and direction in solving problems related to playing the guitar/vihuela on a beginning level and will learn many of the different styles, skills, and techniques required to become a successful musician. Areas of concentration include: correct posture, note reading, aural skills, flat picking, singing songs, rhythmic patterns, chord study, finger picking styles (when appropriate), melody construction, musical forms, tablature notation, improvisation, and performing experiences. This elective course for middle school may be repeated.

Course goals

1. To develop correct posture and hand position.
2. To identify the parts of the guitar/vihuela and string designation.
3. To demonstrate proper care and maintenance of the guitar/vihuela.
4. To develop an awareness of correct tuning of the open strings.
5. To understand the history and origin of the guitar/vihuela.
6. To demonstrate a knowledge of music fundamentals.
7. To recognize form in Mariachi music (i.e. ranchera, son, bolero, polka)
8. To learn basic chords, scales, and bass lines in first position.
9. To learn proper strumming, finger style, and flat picking techniques.

10. To demonstrate proper placement of movable “E” and “A” type barre chords.
11. To develop an awareness of position playing, movable scales, and transposition.
12. To demonstrate an awareness of the function of tablature as it relates to the guitar.
13. To improvise using short melodic phrases, variations, and chord progressions.
14. To become aware of career opportunities in music.
15. To demonstrate an awareness of the relationship between music and other disciplines.
16. To demonstrate and awareness of the regional and historical variations of Mariachi music.
17. To incorporate traditional rhythms used in Mariachi music into music performances.

Course Content and Sequence

Quarter 1: To demonstrate proper playing posture, be able to identify the parts of the instrument.

Quarter 2: To demonstrate proper strumming style.

Quarter 3: To demonstrate proper placement of movable “E” and “A” type barre chords.

Quarter 4: To demonstrate competence on 2-3 musical selections appropriate for concertt presentation.

Course Activities

There will be mandatory performances that are worth a Summative grade. The first concert will be November 16th, the second concert will be April 18th. Ticket prices for concerts are $5.00

Students will need to report to the cafeteria at 5:00pm dressed in concert attire. There will be no adult supervision between 2:05- to 4:55pm. Students and parents must make the appropriate arrangements for concert days. Concerts run from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Tickets will be available for purchase online two weeks prior to the concert date at showtix4u.com.

Course Fees

There is a course fee of $40. Fees help cover classroom materials, strings, picks, cleanings, maintenance, and other various classroom supplies.

Additionally, there will be a cost of $25 to rent school instruments.

Areas of Assessment

1. Quarter Grades will be based as follows: ***20% on Formative Assessments and 80% on Summative Assessments.***

*Formative: Assessment **for** Learning*	*Summative: Assessment **of** Learning*
Monitoring student learning Classwork, observations, checklists, homework No reassessments allowed Late work allowed (see Submission Process)	Evaluate student learning Quizzes, unit exams, projects, presentations, essays, performance ***All formative assignments must be submitted before taking the summative assessment.*** Reassessments allowed (see Reassessment Process)

3. Semester Grades will be based on quarter grades as shown below.

    a. Quarter 1/3 50%
    b. Quarter 2/4 50%

Late Work Policy

1. Students will communicate with their teachers and explain why assigned work is late.
2. The mark "*M*" in Infinite Campus will be used to document an assessment that hasn't been submitted by the deadline and will be calculated as a 0% due to *no evidence*.
    a. Once late work has been submitted, the "*M*" will be replaced with a score reflecting the student's academic performance level.
    b. The deadline to submit late work is two days before the make-up reassessment date decided by the teacher.

Reassessment Policy

1. Requests must be submitted within 5 school days from the "passback" date.
2. It is expected that all missing formative assignments are submitted prior to attempting to retake a summative assessment.
3. Teachers will provide/require additional studying, assignments, or instruction to prepare for the reassessment and will be available to assist students during office hours or by appointment.
4. ***Each summative assessment will be administered a maximum of twice.***
5. Students will ***receive the highest score*** of the two assessments.
6. ***All assessment opportunities will conclude one week before the end of the quarter.***

Missed Performance Policy:
Students that miss a performance have 5 days after the performance date to complete an alternate assignment to receive a grade. Alternative assignment is based on the performance missed, and will include a performance based alternative assignment that can be recorded, in-person or in writing. Absences may not be excused, it is based on teacher discretion and communication in advance with parents or guardians.

> Performances are a required part of this class, so attendance at every performance is required. Only under extreme circumstances will a student be excused from performance attendance, and it is at the teacher's discretion to excuse an absence from a performance. If a student is absent, s/he will receive a "missing" grade for the attendance portion of the performance. A make-up assignment can be provided for any student not in attendance and must be completed within 5 days of the performance.

Explanation of grades

Grading Scale		
Grade	**Percentage**	**Explanation**
A	90% - 100%	Exceeds standards
B	80% - 89%	Meets standards
C	70% - 79%	Partially meets standards
D	60% - 69%	Minimally meets standards
F	0% - 59%	Does not meet standards
MI	0%	Missing
NM		To be used by the registrar only

*Parents and students can monitor their academic progress by accessing Infinite Campus online at http://knudsonms.org.

Course Materials

Students are expected to have the following supplies:

Black Pants	Chromebook
Black Shoes	Instrument
Black K.O. polo	

Citizenship/Behavior Expectations and Grade

a. Citizenship grades reflect class behavior, cooperation, ability to work with peers, and attitudes. Begin by reviewing the criteria for Outstanding Citizenship. To earn an 'O,' the student must meet at least 3 criteria for that level. If not, they move to the satisfactory level. Again, in order to earn an 'S,' the student must meet at least 3 criteria for that level. Continue for 'N,' and 'U'. Below is the school-wide citizenship rubric used to determine student behavior and performance.

Citizenship Rubric

Outstanding	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Consistently on time (0-1 tardy)	Usually on time (2-3 tardies)	Inconsistently on time to class (4-5 tardies)	Consistently late to class (6 or more tardies)
Consistently brings all necessary materials and is consistently prepared (iPad not charged 0-1 times)	Usually brings all necessary materials and is usually prepared (iPad not charged 2-3 times)	Inconsistently brings necessary materials and is inconsistently prepared (iPad not charged 4-5 times)	Consistently unprepared (iPad not charged 6 or more times)
Consistently takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Usually takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Sometimes participates actively in learning	Has to be reminded to get started
Consistently participates by asking questions or contributing to the lesson	Usually participates by asking questions or contributing to the lesson	Inconsistently participates in classroom activities/discussions	Does not actively participate in classroom activities/discussions

Consistently on-task, listens and follows directions with respect	Usually on-task, listens and follows directions with respect	Inconsistently on-task, listens and follows directions. Needs consistent reminding.	Frequently distracted and distracts others in class
Consistently treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. Consistently encourages and helps others	Usually treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a reminder	Inconsistently treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a reminder	Treats teachers or classmates in a negative way through tone of voice or with put-downs or refusals
Consistently shows respect for self or others	Usually shows respect for self or others	Inconsistently shows respect for self or others	Frequently causes problems for self or others

KO STANDARD PRACTICES

PRIDE

***Positive Choices*:** Making Choices that show pride in yourself and your school.
***Respect*:** Treating people, places, and things with kindness.
Integrity: Doing the right thing. because it is the right thing to do.
Determination: Motivating yourself to overcome challenges to meet your goals.
Effort: Being committed to doing your best

LATE WORK POLICY

The deadline to submit late work is two days before the summative reassessment date. Students who chronically submit late work may be referred to the Student Success Office.

GRADE WEIGHTS

20% Formative
80% Summative

Grades will be entered into Canvas and automatically uploaded to Infinite Campus. Students are expected to check Infinite Campus weekly.

GRADING SCALE

A 90-100% Excellent
B 80-89% Above Average
C 70-79% Average
D 60-69% Below Average
F 50-59% Emergent
P Passing (for specific courses)

K.O. KNUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL CITIZENSHIP RUBRIC

	Outstanding	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Timeliness	Consistently on time (0-1 tardy)	Usually on time (2-3 tardies)	Inconsistently on time to class (4-5 tardies)	Consistently late to class (6 or more tardies)
Preparedness	Consistently brings all necessary materials and is consistently prepared (iPad not charged 0-1 times)	Usually brings all necessary materials and is usually prepared (iPad not charged 2-3 times)	Inconsistently brings necessary materials and is inconsistently prepared (iPad not charged 4-5 times)	Consistently unprepared regularly does not bring necessary materials to class.
Effort	Consistently takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Usually takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Sometimes participates actively in learning	Has to be directed to get started
Participation	Consistently participates by asking questions or contributing to the lesson	Usually on task, listens and follows directions with respect	Inconsistently on task, listens and follows directions. Needs consistent reminding.	Frequently distracted and distracts others in class
On -task	Consistently on task, listens and follows directions with respect	Usually treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a reminder	Inconsistently treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a Reminder	Treats teachers or classmates in a negative way through tone of voice or with put-downs or refusals.
Respect	Consistently shows respect for self or others	Usually shows respect for self or others	Inconsistently shows respect for self or others	Frequently causes problems for self or others

SUMMATIVE RETAKES

Requests must be submitted within five days of initial "passback". Summative assessments are eligible for retake only if all formative work has been submitted.

SEMESTER BREAKDOWN:

Quarter 1 50%
Quarter 2 50%

(There will not be any semester exams given at the middle school level, unless students are enrolled in a High School Credit Class ie Algebra 1)