

Guitar 2  
Course Syllabus  
Mr. Marsh (amarsh@staff.gtchs.org)  
2024-2025

**Description and Organization:** This course is for students interested in continuing their learning of the Guitar. Students should have a good foundation of skills before taking this course. We will expand our knowledge of music by further concentration on music reading, chord study, playing by ear, and composition. Students will be expected to showcase their progress to the school community during the year.

Initially we will begin with a review so that all students have a minimum level of knowledge and skills. Once we have established that we will move into new areas of development. As student musicians become better on their own, they will be expected to share their advances with the class and collaborate to perform. Students will have many projects to arrange, compose, and transpose music as they grow.

**Course Objectives:**

To teach students to teach themselves.

To encourage students to become lifetime learners and players.

To have students grow musically with their instrument.

To add music to the GTCHS community.

To cover the National Standards for Music Education:

1. *Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.*
2. *Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.*
3. *Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.*
4. *Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.*
5. *Reading and notating music.*
6. *Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.*
7. *Evaluating music and music performances.*
8. *Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.*
9. *Understanding music in relation to history and culture.*

**Course Topics:**

Acoustics, Genres, Sheet music, Tabs, Playing by ear, Rehearsal technique, Performance technique, Professional musicianship, Composition, Arranging, Music Technology, Music History, Music Theory.

**Required Supplies:** Students need to bring a guitar to class every day. If a student does not have an instrument, they need to work with Mr. Marsh to find one. Acoustic guitars are preferred, students with electric guitars **must** provide reasonable amplification. Students that leave their instruments at school **MUST** lock them up in a room or locker every day. Students also need a three-ring binder with a notebook or looseleaf paper and a writing utensil every day.

**Grading:** Grading will include daily participation, frequent playing tests, performance projects,

and semester exams.

*Daily participation and Classwork* includes being ready for class on time as well as showing a good work ethic both during group learning and individual practice time.

*Playing tests and Quizzes* include playing tests that may be played privately or in front of the class. These tests show whether or not a student is mastering the concepts assigned. This category also includes written quizzes.

*Projects* are larger in scope than playing tests. They may include solos or small group pieces that have been worked on for multiple days, as well as presentations or written work.

*Unit tests* include important prepared performances and written tests.

*Semester exams* may be performance based and/or paper based.

Participation and Classwork - 20%

Smaller Playing Tests/Quizzes - 30%

Projects - 30%

Unit tests (written and playing) - 20%

Semester Exam - 10% per semester

**Performances:** All performances are mandatory, and they count as part of your semester exams.

Please make a note in your calendar for the following dates.

**Winter Concert & Art Show**

**December 10th**

**7pm Concert (6pm call)**

**Guitar, Chorus & Art Show**

**May 6th**

**7pm Concert (6pm call)**

The dress code is all black, top and bottom and dress shoes. Stretch and yoga pants and T-shirts with logo's on them are not considered appropriate formal wear. If in doubt about the appropriateness of your outfit take a picture or bring it to class.

**Grading for performances is as follows:**

Punctuality and staying entire show 20%

Dress Code 20%

Music 20%

Stage Conduct 20%

Off stage conduct 20%

**Mastery:** GTCHS is a mastery school. This means that if your grade falls below an 75, it is **your responsibility** to attend office hours with me to bring your grade up. My office hours are Wednesday after school, but you will find that I am very flexible and I am happy to work with you to find time on another day if needed. **You have to make the effort to talk to me about your grade concerns.**

**Need extra help or time, regardless of grade?**

If we are in school, I am at school almost every day until 3:45 or later. You are always welcome to arrange a time with me to work on your projects, either by yourself or with my assistance.

**Communication:** We will use Google Classroom for most of our class-related communication.

Please check it daily for announcements and assignments.

Use this code to join now: i7b5wx5

### **Band Room Rules**

1. Have your instrument and music every day.
2. No talking while someone is leading the class.
3. Uplift others and treat them with respect.
4. No gum, food, or drink in the band room ever. (except water)
5. Cell phones and headphones should not be out or used during class (unless requested by the director).
6. Take care of your instrument and be respectful of other instruments in the room.
7. Treat all music spaces with respect.

I firmly believe that any issues that arise in class with these rules can be resolved between you and I. I will not involve your parents as long as our discussions result in a positive change.

As a music student you will be expected to perform outside of regular school hours. Our winter concert will be part of your midterm and our spring showcase will be half of your final. These count for 20% of your overall grade. Please put these 2 dates on your calendar and make sure your parents are aware of this as well.

Sign that you have read this and understand the importance of keeping these 2 evenings, December 10th and May 6th, free.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_