



# Northern Granville Middle School

## Guitar Course

### Syllabus [2015-2016]

Welcome to a new school year! I am looking forward to working with you and your student in the coming year. Beyond learning about music and how to play an instrument, we teach your child to have self-discipline, responsibility, integrity, teamwork and perseverance.

If you ever have ANY questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best way to contact me is through email.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Ashley Sample  
919-693-1483  
sampleta@gcs.k12.nc.us

Check out our new website!  
<http://northerngranvillemusic.weebly.com/>

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Guitar Course is the final year of middle school general music instruction. Ownership or rental of instruments is **NOT** required. The school has a number of guitars for use during class. However, it would be great if students had their own instrument to practice on at home. Emphasis is given to providing a strong fundamental approach to their instrument. Rehearsal from the required Music Text [*Hal Leonard Guitar Complete Method*] will be accomplished daily, as well as developmental music theory and ear training. One to two performances outside of normal school hours is required as part of this course. Individual practice outside of class is necessary to be successful.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- The student will develop a working knowledge of the proper posture and technique necessary to play the guitar.
- The student will develop the ability to play a guitar while reading traditional music notation.
- The student will experience the performance of musical literature at the grade I & grade II levels.
- The student will gain an understanding of the expressive concepts unique to musical performance by developing a working knowledge of proper posture, technique, and tone quality on the guitar.

#### REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- OPTIONAL: Instrument [in proper working order]
- OPTIONAL: Accessories [extra strings, shoulder strap, picks]
- Music Book [*Hal Leonard Guitar Complete Method*]
- Three ring binder
- Pencil
- Paper

#### GRADING:

##### **WRITTEN & PERFORMANCE-BASED QUIZZES / HOMEWORK 60%**

*Homework:* You will have at least one to three assignments to complete at home each week.

*Quizzes:* will be held during class at the rate of about once per week. Some quizzes may be “on the spot”, but students will usually be given notice of a quiz well in advance. Written quizzes will primarily cover music history and theory, but may also include composition. Performance-based quizzes will cover the fundamentals of piano as well as improvisation and even short songs.

##### **WRITTEN & PERFORMANCE-BASED TESTS 40%**

*Tests:* will be held during class at the rate of about once every 3 to 4 weeks. Students will be given notice of a test well in advance. Written tests will primarily cover music history and theory, but may also include composition.

Performance-based tests will cover piano fundamentals as well as short group and individual performances and even improvisation.

### PERFORMANCE DATES\*\*\*

This year the Guitar Class will perform two public concerts in the Northern Granville Auditorium. All concerts will begin at 7:00 pm. Students are to be in their seats to warm-up (or in the audience waiting to perform) no later than 6:30pm for concerts. (To be early is to be on time.....)

**Tuesday, October 13th\*** – 7:00pm – Northern Granville MS Auditorium [tentative]

\*This date depends on the current proficiency level of returning students.

**Thursday, December 10th** – 7:00pm – Northern Granville MS Auditorium [definite]

### CONCERT DRESS:

Boys:

Pant: Black long pants, no denim

Shirt: White Shirt with a collar must be tucked in.

Shoes: Black, with black socks

Girls:

Pant or Skirt: Black pants, Capri or Skirt.

Shirt: Black

Shoes: Black

[All dresses and skirts should be knee length while seated.]

### CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

In order to facilitate the best daily classroom experience for the amount of students that we have in large classes such as guitar, the students will learn how to enter and setup properly for class. This will be accomplished during the first several days of school through practicing daily classroom procedures and drills.

### DAILY CLASSROOM RULES

- Be quiet in your chair with materials and your instrument in the ready position when class is ready to begin.
- No gum, candy, food, or drinks in the band room, during rehearsal, or during performance. This is a strict policy due to the choking hazard.
- Do not play your instrument unless you are asked to do so.
- Stay off equipment not assigned to you.
- Raise your hand to ask questions, please.
- Manners are expected ALL THE TIME! Rude behavior will not be accepted!

### CONSEQUENCES

1. Verbal warning[s]
2. Silent Lunch
3. In order to maximize our short time together every day, students must commit to provide an atmosphere that is conducive to learning. If a student is blatantly disrupting the class and is disrespectful to students or the teacher, the student will be removed from the classroom until their behavior has improved.

### SCHOOL INSTRUMENT RENTAL:

To help with the success of our program, Granville County provides some larger and more expensive instruments for student use. **Students will have to provide an semester rental fee of \$10.00.** This fee will go into the school music account to help pay for minor repairs and the privilege of having the instrument assigned to your child. Any major damages while a student is assigned to a specific instrument will be the responsibility of the student's parents. Make all checks payable to Northern Granville Middle School. When writing a check, please include your phone number, driver's license number and clearly print the student's name on the memo line.