

# Monticello High School Bands

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## Guitar Syllabus

**Course Title:** Beginning Guitar

**Grade Levels:** 9-12

**Teacher:** Mr. Coston

**Description:** Students will be instructed in learning all aspects of playing guitar along with music reading, music theory, and selected historical, cultural and technical contributions.

### **Objectives:**

1. Students will be assisted in developing proper posture; care of instrument; tuning and stringing; reading notes in first position; basic rhythms and symbols; basic strums and first position chords.
2. Students will gain knowledge of music theory and written notation, music history and multicultural contributions.
3. Students will develop performance skills on the guitar as they participate in disciplined and directed group and individual activities in listening, playing and dictation.
4. Students will be aided in discriminating among the various music styles of this country and from around the world.
5. Students will communicate their feelings and will make judgments about musical performances and selected listening assignments and recordings.

### **Music Students will become...**

#### **1. Lifelong learners who develop successful learning habits.**

Processing, analyzing and responding to sensory information through the language and skills unique to the arts.

Assessment: Students can read and write music. They can also respond analytically to music using appropriate descriptive vocabulary and formulate mature opinions on content and quality.

#### **2. Creative, critical thinkers who have an understanding of course content and mastery of artistic skills.**

Creating, performing and participating in the arts.

Assessment: Students perform varied repertoire with expression and technical accuracy. Every student will compose original music within the parameters of the course content.

#### **3. Responsible and respectful community members who respect other cultures.**

Understanding historical contributions and cultural dimensions of the arts.

Assessment: Students will learn to perform and enjoy music of different cultures. They will grow in their tolerance, appreciation and understanding of unfamiliar music genres.

### **Activities:**

1. Playing songs, chords, scales and exercises on an acoustic guitar
2. Rhythmic, melodic and harmonic dictation and music games
3. In class assignments, composition, theory quizzes and performance tests
4. Guided listening, research, recording and class discussion

**Materials:**

1. acoustic guitar provided by the student
2. Essential Elements Guitar Book 1. Students should purchase a copy for home practice.
3. Guitar folder. Bring it every day!

**Grading Policy:** Academic grades will be affected by performance in four areas. A typical nine-week example:

In class participation	200 points
Music portfolio	50 points
Quizzes, Final Exam	50 points
Performance Tests	100 points
Total	400 points

100%-90% of total points = A 89-80% = B 79-70% = C 69-60% 59% and below = F

**In-class participation** points awarded 5 points per class period

**Be Punctual** +1 (Be in the classroom, getting your instrument and equipment set up when bell rings.)

**Be Prepared** +1 (Bring portfolio, pencil and other materials.)

**Be Positive** +1 (Maintain a positive attitude.)

**Be Persistent** +1 (Stay on task, keep focused and don't give up right away.)

**Be Perceptive** +1 (Listen to the teacher, no talking)

**Attendance:**

Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of class. All absences and tardies are recorded and affect the in-class participation portion of your grade. Citizenship grade is derived from in-classroom participation, absences and tardies.

3 tardies = 1 absence

**Teacher expectations:** The following is expected from every student:

1. Respect yourself, others, the teachers, instruments and all equipment.
2. Follow directions quickly and quietly.
3. Actively and positively participate in class.
4. Allow other students to learn at their own pace.
5. Always bring your music portfolio and a pencil to class.
6. Stay in your seat unless given permission to leave.
7. Raise your hand if you have a comment, question or need help.
8. Kicking will lead to loss of playing privilege

**School Rules:**

Play only your assigned instrument.

No electronics without permission.

No food or drink while playing instruments.

I have read and fully understand the policies set forth in this document. My good standing in this class is contingent on my promise to observe these guidelines in every detail.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_ Print name \_\_\_\_\_