

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

## **GUITAR TECHNIQUE I & II**

Grades 9, 10

### **Course Syllabus**

#### **Course Overview:**

Guitar Tech I and II are for first and second year guitar majors and are designed to give them a solid foundation in guitar technique and performance. Students will have a daily lesson emphasizing various forms of guitar music. The ultimate goal of the Guitar Tech course is for all students to perform at a high level on their senior recital and college entrance auditions.

The focus of these classes will be on developing the student's skills and knowledge in the following areas: fundamental technique exercises, scales and arpeggios, various etudes and solo guitar repertoire, development of various guitar styles (classical, jazz, Latin, others), and improvisational techniques.

#### **Content Standards:**

DCPS music content standards are basis for the core skills and concepts addressed in this course:

- Undertake daily instrument technique exercises.
- Learn to play through music notation and develop sight reading proficiency.
- Develop proficiency in performing assorted etudes and compositions.
- Learn to play a varied repertoire of music
- Understand the history and culture of the instrument
- Learn to improvise

#### **Course Materials:**

Students are to own the following method book:

Classic Guitar by Sophocles

Mel Bay's Complete Book of Guitar Chords, Scales and Arpeggios (MB94792)

Building A Jazz Vocabulary by Mike Steinell

Additional literature may be assigned as required.

## **Course Requirements**

1. Students must own or rent a nylon string classical guitar. An electric guitar is highly recommended.
2. All students are required to own and practice with a **METRONOME**.
3. Additional items that students must own for home use are a music stand and footstool.
4. Students must bring all required materials to class each day: music (i.e. chord book, classical literature, etc...), guitar picks, guitar cord, tuner, pencil, eraser, and writing paper (writing and manuscript).
5. All rehearsals two week prior to a performance are Mandatory. Please schedule all appointments and other activities outside of that window.

## **Grading Procedures**

Students will be graded by:

1. Quality of class and homework assignments.
2. Evidence of a consistent daily practice schedule
3. Class attendance and promptness. Any absence must be supported by a note from home signed by a parent or legal guardian. Tardiness without a pass will affect the student's grade.
4. Class participation
5. Preparation for and quality of performances.
6. Two musical juries at mid-point and end of year

## **Grading Breakdown**

**The grade for each advisory will be based on the following areas:**

Participation----10%

Practice and Application----50%

Assessments----40%

**Dress requirements for juries and recitals**

Students will not be allowed to perform and will receive a failing grade for the jury or recital if they are not in the correct performance attire as indicated below. All performance attire must be approved by the technique teacher before the performance.

- Male – black tailored suit (no saggy cuffs), white collared shirt, long matching black tie, black socks, and black shine-able dress shoes. For additional information, please seek advice from the designated male advisor.
- Female –black long skirt(T-length/mid-calf or longer) with black collared blouse, black/off black stockings and black dress shoes. No cleavage, midriff, bare shoulders or pants/pant suits allowed. All jewelry worn for performance must be modest and conservative. For additional information, please seek advice from the designated female advisor.

***It is a requirement to pass this course that students participate/attend ALL rehearsals(including mandatory after school rehearsals) and performances.***

I have received and read the Guitar I & II Course Syllabus and agree to meet all course requirements and objectives as listed in the syllabus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Please return this signed form to the teacher.