

**Tesoro High School
Mr. Hancock
Beginning Guitar**



Welcome to the Beginning Guitar class!! Congratulations to beginning or continuing your guitar studies here at Tesoro. Included in this fact sheet are some things you need to know about the guitar class and about the way the class will be run. I am excited about teaching this class and I know we will all learn together.

Objectives:

1. Students will learn basic chord patterns and progressions.
2. Students will learn music notation and symbols.
3. Students will learn guitar tablature.
4. Students will learn to evaluate themselves and each other in a safe, non-threatening, positive manner.
5. Students will learn songs and perform them on a daily basis.

Expectations

1. Students will treat each other with respect, courtesy and fairness.
2. Students will respect the teacher and will not interfere with his teaching.
3. Students will bring guitars, books, and a pencil to class each day (Personal preparation).
4. Students will practice their guitar lessons at home for at least 15 minutes per day.

Guitar Care

1. Guitars are valuable musical instruments and are to be treated with care and respect.
2. Students will buy or borrow their own guitars for the entire length of the course. Guitars may be bought from Jim's Music or Guitar Center.

Jim's Music Center

14120 Culver Dr. Ste J - Irvine, CA.
(949) 552-4280 (800) 644-6874

Rancho Canyon Music

30085 Commerico
RSM, CA 92688
Phone: 949-589-7688

Guitar Center El Toro
23811 El Toro Rd. #A
Lake Forest, CA 92630
Phone: 949-609-0055

3. It is recommended that students who own guitars provide a case for easy transportation of the instrument between home and school.
Students will not store their guitars in the choral room.

Textbooks

1. Students will be purchasing their own method book for this class. You may order the method book through Mr. Hancock c/o Tesoro High School. The text we are using is *Mastering the Guitar Class Method 9th Grade or Higher* (#99553) by William Bay and Mike Christiansen. The cost is \$15 payable to Tesoro High School if ordering through THS. The accompanying CD is optional. You may also order directly through melbay.com. There are many levels of the Mastering the Guitar Series, so make sure you get the correct book.
2. No student will be denied admittance to the class because of financial reasons. If there is a financial problem, please contact Mr. Hancock.

Class Conduct

1. Students will refrain from talking while the teacher is talking.
2. Students will work primarily in small groups and will be expected to contribute to the success of the group. This will include helping others, playing together as an ensemble, and giving positive feedback to other students.
3. There are no food or beverages allowed in the Choral Room with the exception of bottled water.
4. There is no gum allowed in the Choral Room. Ipods and cell phones must be kept off and out of sight or they will be confiscated. Do not bring playing cards to class. They will be confiscated.
5. Students are expected to be in their seat with their guitar and textbook when the bell rings.

Students will be expected to:

1. Come to class on time and be in their seat before the tardy bell rings.
2. Be attentive and follow all directions the first time they are given.
3. Be respectful of others, including the teacher and fellow students.
4. Participate willingly in every activity.
5. AGMNTWASP (A good musician never travels without a sharpened pencil)

Students who choose to adhere to the above will earn...

1. Verbal praise
2. Positive parent contact
3. Outstanding marks in citizenship

Students who choose not to adhere to the above will earn...

- 1st offense- warning by teacher/peers
- 2nd offense- conference with teacher
- 3rd offense- 15 min. teacher detention, lowered citizenship
- 4th offense- 30 min. teacher detention and parent contact, lowered citizenship
- 5th offense- 30 min. teacher detention, parent contact, and referral

These consequences are earned on a daily basis, with the exception of the tardy and cheating policies of Tesoro.

The tardy policy of Tesoro High School will be strictly followed.

In addition to the above, the following **Severe Clause** will be enforced on the first violation to any of the following offenses:

1. Any student who willingly participates in an activity that could injure themselves or others will be immediately referred to their Assistant Principal and parents will be contacted.
2. Any student who violates the cheating policy (cheating or helping another student cheat on any test or homework item) or the sexual harassment policy of Tesoro will be immediately referred to their Assistant Principal and parents will be contacted.

GRADING POLICY

1. The grading policy for the Guitar Class is based on percentage (no curve)
90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C 60-69 D 59-0 F
2. 60% of semester grade based on in-class assignments
25% of semester grade based on participation
15% of semester grade based on tests, quizzes, and final exam
3. Unexcused tardies and absences can lower final grade. Each tardy will lower the participation grade 2%.
4. The performance final is a culmination of what the students have learned throughout the semester. Students are expected to perform in a duet or as a solo. Final songs must be approved by Mr. Hancock.
5. Academic progress will be posted on Webgrade. In addition, progress reports will be sent home with each student detailing the grade and any additional comments. However, at any time parents or students may contact the instructor requesting grade information.
6. Extra credit in any case will not be given unless student has completed all required work. All extra work is under discretion of teacher.
7. Late work will be accepted with a penalty of a grade per day late. Absent students must complete missing work on the class after they return to school to avoid late penalties.

Please sign and return this form to Mr. Hancock by Friday, September 12.

Student Name _____

Parent./Guardian Name _____

Phone Number _____

____ I have played the guitar for ____ years or ____ months.

____ I have taken guitar lessons for ____ years or ____ months.

____ I will be purchasing a guitar

____ I will be borrowing a guitar or obtaining a guitar some other way.

____ I understand I will need to obtain a guitar method book for this class
(Mastering the Guitar Class Method 9th Grade and Higher)

I have read and understood the rules, expectations and procedures of the
Beginning Guitar Class. I will follow the rules and contribute to the class.

Student's signature _____

Parent's signature _____