



## **BERT CHURCH HIGH SCHOOL**

1010 East Lake Blvd.  
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403.948.3800



### **Guitar 9 & Guitar 10/20/30**

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

Guitar is a one-semester course covering the basics of the instrument and an application of essential music fundamentals. Students will learn the basics of playing guitar at a beginning level through studying music notation, chord symbols, and peer modelling. A brief history of the guitar along with a study of its respective musical styles will also be covered in this course. Each 'Level' (9, 10, 20, 30) will have additional requirements that demonstrate a learned level of ability on either the guitar, ukulele or bass guitar.

The main objective of this course is to create an enhanced appreciation for music through playing the guitar. Students will learn how to read music notation, chord symbols, and tablature. Students will also gain a better understanding of many different musical genres including classical, flamenco, blues, jazz, rock, and pop music. Some students will come to this class with previous knowledge and ability, and with that in mind, the course is completely adaptive to encourage growth in each student's abilities. Assignments and Instruction will be tailored to the "individual" but there will be times where the entire class will receive a level of instruction that can include "Everyone".

#### **GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS**

- 1) Students will learn the basics of how to play the guitar in a supportive group setting and will gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the instrument on music throughout its history.
- 2) Students will increase their musical knowledge by reading music notation and chord symbols on a daily basis along with learning common scales and beginning improvisational techniques.
- 3) Students will perform music in small groups and as a large guitar ensemble. Based on student interest, a cumulative final concert will be scheduled outside of school near the end of the semester to showcase the achievements of the students that wish to show what they have learned.

#### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- **Equipment requirements:** An acoustic or electric guitar in good working order. There are numerous ways to make this connection, and methods may vary depending on the equipment that students plan to use. Suggestions will be given on a case-by-case basis, as required. Some guitars will be provided, but ideally, each student would have their own guitar at home to practice on.

#### **FEES:**

The course fee for this course is: **Guitar 9** - \$50.00, **Guitar 10/20/30** - \$50.00. The course fee covers the materials such as website memberships to access song information for students, instruments to use at the school, amplifiers and the maintenance of the instruments and gear that students use at school. If you have any financial issues preventing payment of course fees, please visit the Rocky View website or contact the school office for information on the fee waiver process.

#### **EXPECTATIONS and POLICIES:**

Note that all expectations and policies strive to provide all students with:

1. **A safe classroom environment;**
2. **An optimal learning experience;**
3. **The freedom to take ownership for their learning in a socially responsible manner.**



## **ATTENDANCE**

### **ABSENCES:**

An excused absence occurs when a parent or guardian phones the school at 403-948-3800 (24 hours a day) to report an absence. Telephone calls from students are not acceptable, unless the student has “adult status” confirmed by the administration of BCHS. Parents are requested to phone in advance of the absence if possible. If that is not possible, parents must call the day of the absence, or no later than the day after the absence (i.e. within 24 hours) if it is to be excused. Notes received from parents within this time frame are also acceptable.

An unexcused absence includes those absences for which no phone call or note has been received within 24 hours following the absence. If the student misses a class where there is an assignment due or a quiz or exam written, the work will be awarded a designation of “NHI” (Not Handed In), which constitutes a zero for the purpose of calculating grades.

(Chapter S-3, Part 1.14, School Act, 2000)

### **LATES:**

Don't be late. Being late reflects poorly upon your priorities and character. Students may be subjected to further consequences specific to the presiding teacher. BCHS policy also applies.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **MISSED ASSIGNMENTS:**

- When a student has an excused absence it is their responsibility to contact the teacher about missed work and to determine a mutually agreeable time for missed assignments to be handed in for marking. Such issues must be discussed with the teacher on the day of the student's return to classes, or earlier if possible (i.e. by phone or email).
- If no attempt is made to contact the teacher or the work is not completed within the agreed time an “NHI” (Not Handed In; 0 equivalent) will be awarded for the assignment. Further policies will apply (see below).
- Hard copies of assignments will be readily available, and electronic copies will be available at the discretion of the presiding teacher. It is the student's responsibility to keep current.

### **EXTENSION POLICY:**

- Extensions will only be granted for excused absences, and then only if the student or the student's parent(s) / guardian(s) have contacted the teacher no later than 24 hours before the due date (in the case of a known absence) or no later than 24 hours after the due date (in the case of an unforeseen absence).
- Other extensions – whether due to conflicts with extra-curricular activities or course load – will be awarded at the discretion of the presiding teacher.

### **MISSED QUIZZES AND PLAYING TESTS:**

A missed quiz or playing test will be written/played on the immediate day back if the absence is excused. If not, an ‘NHI’ will be awarded. It is the student's responsibility to arrange the time that this quiz or test will be completed with the teacher.

### **APPEALS:**

See the *BCHS Student Handbook*.

## **EVALUATION:**

In class, students will be assessed on the criteria listed below. **Regular attendance, classroom participation and an attitude conducive to learning** are necessary for optimum performance and success in this class.

Effort/Attitude/Participation/ Theory & History	55%
<u>Performance/ Teacher &amp; Self-Evaluation</u>	<u>45%</u>
Total:	100%



**TERM SCHEDULE:**

Guitar 9 is offered in Quarters 1 and 4 and occurs during Period 4 on Day 1's and Period 3 on Day 2's.

Guitar 10/20/30 is every day in each Semester.

- Semester 1 - Period 2 of Day 1's and Period 1 of Day 2's
- Semester 2 - Period 1 of Day 1's and Period 2 of Day 2's

**Best of luck this school year! Please do not hesitate to come to me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I am here to ensure that your time in my class and at BCHS is educational, empowering, and enjoyable. I have full confidence in your ability to succeed. GOOD LUCK!**

