

# SOUTH MONTEREY COUNTY JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## BEGINNING GUITAR

2019-2020

1. **NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Jillian Kling

[jkling@smcjuhsd.org](mailto:jkling@smcjuhsd.org)

School phone: 831-385-0901 ext. 1162

2. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students will be able to read music and tablature. Students will have a basic understanding of music theory and guitar playing. Students will perform with expression and technical accuracy. (MU:Pr6.1.H.5a)\*

\*Music Education National Standards

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed to introduce students to playing guitar and reading music. Students will also be exposed to basic concepts in music theory. Students will have a chance to play alone, together, and even sing. This course is designed to teach guitar basics. 😊

4. **Class Expectations:**

- a. Arrive **early and prepared for class**.
- b. Treat people, materials, and facilities with **respect**.
- c. Always **give your best effort**.
- d. **Have fun!**

5. **CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT:**

- a. The student will adhere to all school rules and district policies as summarized in the Parent/Student handbook.
- b. Students **will not have cell phones out in class**. Any phone out in class will be confiscated and taken to the office. No exceptions.
- c. In the band room, the student will treat peers, equipment, and facilities with respect. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.
- d. Students who are repeatedly in violation of the code of conduct will be given a referral. If the referral does not correct the problem, the parents/guardians will receive a phone call at which point a discipline plan will be made.
- e. During performances/when in uniform students will follow all school rules as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook. Students will show respect to peers, community

members, authority figures, equipment, and themselves. **Alcohol, tobacco, and drugs are NOT PERMITTED at school events or while in uniform** (this includes your blue band shirt). If the student is found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, legal action will be taken and the student will be removed from the program permanently.

Failure to comply to these rules will result in appropriate disciplinary or legal action and could compromise the student's spot in the ensemble.

## 6. GRADING SCALE:

### Administrative Regulation (AR) 5121 (a)

Grades for each grading period as follows:

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
D	(60-69%)	Below Average Achievement	1.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Little or no Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

An Incomplete shall be given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

### Board Policy 5121 (b)

Effect of Absences on Grades:

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test, or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for nonperformance, based on the value of the missed assignment.

The Board believes that 5 unexcused absences per grading period constitute excessive unexcused absences. Students with excessive unexcused absences may receive a failing grade and not receive credit for the class.

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed by the teachers if class credit is withheld due to excessive unexcused absences. Each time an unexcused absence occurs the student and parent/guardian shall again be notified of the district's policy regarding excessive unexcused absences. When a student has 4 unexcused absences a phone call and/or meeting will be arranged by the teacher with the parent/guardian.

## 7. ASSESSMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:

- a. **Concerts and rehearsals (40%)** Students will be expected to attend public performances this school year. The students will be given plenty of time to make arrangements, such as getting time off work, in order to attend rehearsals and performances.

- b. **Participation (10%)** Students receive 5 participation points per day. To earn all five points, the student must arrive with their materials, participate in class activities, and try their best. If a student refuses to play their instrument, they will lose points. The student must ALWAYS have a pencil, and can lose points if they are unprepared or off task.
- c. **Class work (25%)** Occasionally, we will complete written activities in class. These assignments include concert reflections and other short responses completed in class. The student will be graded on the content of their writing, not the quality. As long as the student shows some original thought, they will receive full credit.
- d. **Quizzes and Tests (25%)** Students will take several quizzes based on the music and concepts we are learning in class. **Please note that test materials are subject to change based on student and ensemble needs.**

8. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** If a student must miss a concert or outside rehearsal, the student will provide a note signed by the parent or guardian stating the reason for the student's absence. (Excusable absences include but are not limited to; family death or emergency, participating in a wedding, a religious holiday, prior plans to be out of town, etc.) **Please note that just because a note is provided, the absence may still be unexcused. Please make appropriate arrangements if you need; time off work, someone to watch siblings, to work on group projects. You will not be excused for poor time management.** If there is a last minute conflict, the student should bring a note signed by the parent or guardian the following day. At that point the absence can be excused or unexcused. Any sports conflicts should be brought to my attention IMMEDIATELY so I can make arrangements with your coach. Games take precedent over practice or rehearsal. For example: a volley ball game takes precedent over a Monday night rehearsal, but a football game takes precedent over a volley ball practice.

**In the case of an absence,** the student will complete a written assignment to make up the grade for excused absences. Unexcused absences cannot be made up.

9. **MATERIALS:**
- a. Instrument (student owned or school provided)
  - b. Pencil (**NO PEN!**)
  - c. Music, kept in a music folder

.....



Please **detach** and return to Ms. Kling by Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. (20pts)

By signing below, you acknowledge understanding of the policies as listed above. You further acknowledge that you have read, understand, and accept each policy in its entirety. You acknowledge that you will **keep this syllabus for your records**.

---

Student Signature

---

Parent signature