



# Intro to Acoustic Guitar

## Grand Haven High School



**Course Number:** J42  
**Grade Level:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Credits :** 1/2  
**Prerequisite Courses :**

### Course Description

This introductory class is designed for those students with little to no guitar playing experience. The course will concentrate on playing classical and folk styles. Students must have their own guitar.

### Course Objectives

1. To gain experience performing in front of an audience.
2. To develop correct posture and hand position; be able to describe/demonstrate.
3. To identify parts of the guitar.
4. To demonstrate proper tuning of the guitar by matching pitch.
5. To learn and use the basic fundamentals of musical notation and perform basic rhythms.
6. To learn basic chords and single notes in first position.
7. To learn proper strumming, finger style, and picking techniques.
8. To participate in performance and evaluation of music.
9. To demonstrate basic notating skills.
10. To be able to perform D (1), G (2), C (1), A (2), and E (2) major scales.
11. To be able to accompany themselves while singing..

### Student Expectations

All guitar students are expected to bring a great attitude and work ethic to each class. Students are expected to attend ALL classes. Three points are awarded daily for participation. Participation in class involves active practice and completing assignments on time. GHHS attendance policy is outlined further on pg. 10 of the student handbook.

#### Building Behavioral Expectations

***TEAM GH ... One Team, One Family, One Grand Haven. Be Kind. Always.***

It is our expectation that ALL GHHS students, staff and parents will ... always give their best **EFFORT** in everything that they do, work hard to be **INCLUSIVE** of each other, show **RESPONSIBILITY** in class, the hallways, cafeteria and at events, and **WORK TOGETHER** at all times!

## Communication

Grandhavenbands.org: Your primary resource for communication and official documents/ information regarding the Bands of GHHS. Use this site to explore the band program, send email, sign up for various activities, and stay informed. Subscribe to RSS feeds and sign up for email blasts to keep connected. Guitar class students will "register" here within the first two weeks of class.

Remind.com: Texting/email service for up-to-the-minute changes/reminders of upcoming events. Used to remind students of performances, call times, equipment, tests, homework, etc. Two ways to sign up:

Guitar Class

Text: text @introtoaco to 81010

Email: email [www.remind.com/join/introtoaco](http://www.remind.com/join/introtoaco)

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Iain Novoselich, 616.850.6145, [novoselichi@ghaps.org](mailto:novoselichi@ghaps.org)

## Grading Policy

DAILY MUSICIANSHIP 20%

- posture
- proper use of the instrument/equipment
- music, folder, book, pencil
- attitude and attentiveness

This grade is determined by the quality of participation on a daily basis.

WRITTEN WORK 20%

Homework

- marking music
- theory worksheets
- writing assignments

QUIZZES/TESTS 30%

- theory quizzes/tests

PERFORMANCE 30%

- Playing Tests

This grade is determined by the quality of participation on a performance basis.

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## Scope and Sequence

There will be a total of nine (9) performances and six (6) quizzes given during the term. You will be evaluated as follows:

Participation

9 Playing Tests

6 Written Quizzes

Written Assignments

Written Final

Playing Final

Playing Final: (individual performance—not in front of class)

1. Perform one piece from the Alfred text. Selections TBA. You must use a guitar pick.
2. Perform one tablature tune from class or a pre-approved tablature tune. You must use a guitar pick.
3. Perform one chord tune learned in class. You must use a guitar pick.
4. Perform two scales (teacher choice) from Heller “Major Scales” sheet. You must use a guitar pick.

You will need:

1. Alfred’s Basic Guitar Method (assigned by school)
2. A flat pick (medium gauge recommended—supplied by student).
3. Steel stringed acoustic or classical guitar in good working order. **NO ELECTRIC GUITARS.**
4. Students should purchase light gauge phosphor bronze strings made by Martin, Everly, or a similar brand. There will be a class on replacing strings, so it is highly recommended that students purchase a new set of strings. If a string should break, a student has up to 2 days to get a new string/set of strings. After that period, daily participation points will not be earned.

Extention:

For students whose guitar performance skills are beyond the scope of this class, an individual syllabus will be developed by the student and teacher in conjunction by the end of the second week of school. Ideas for study can range from presenting lessons in the role of classroom assistant, to a guided study song-writing course, to the study of a new genre or style of playing, or any combination of these or other ideas. Students will use this syllabus as a guide when developing their own, and must present what their course goals are, how they are to learn them, and how they will be assessed. Failure to develop this document by the deadline will result in default adherence to the above guidelines and modifications made to the syllabus will be made by the teacher at will.

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