

## Wilson Area School District Planned Course Guide

**Title of Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Subject Area:** Music

**Grade Level:** 9-12

**Course Description:** In this course, students are introduced to the parts of the guitar, elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm), music terminology and symbols, guitar terminology and symbols, chords and progressions, musical genres (folk rock, country, blues, spirituals and patriotic). Students will perform individually and together. Students will perform daily either in ensemble or alone. They will perform proficiencies (tests) individually to show below average/proficiency/mastery of the material. Students will be given time to demonstrate mastery. Their final recital will be playing and singing a song from a genre of their choice.

**Credit for this course:** One Full Academic Year / 1 credit

**Curriculum Writing Committee:** Melissa Wetherell

# Curriculum Map

## August:

- Introduction to the Guitar and its parts
- Tuning, care and labeling the instrument
- String 1- fingering and note reading
- Time signature, staff, bar lines, steady beat, simple rhythms

## September:

- String 1, 2, and 3
- Time signature, staff, bar lines, steady beat, simple rhythms

## October:

- Strings 3-4
- Ties, chord, progression, scale, key, I, IV, V7 and what these mean
- Chord progressions D and A

## November:

- Strings 5-6
- Chord progressions A and G

## December:

- String 6
- Chord progression E
- Minor chord progression e and a

## January:

- Chord progression- C
- 8<sup>th</sup> notes, sharps. Midterm

## February:

- Strumming patterns with chords
- Dotted quarter notes

## March:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> position, key signatures, tabulature, power chords, PIMA

## April:

- Barre chords, PIMA, carter style, 12 bar blues, pentatonic scale, moveable power chords, scales, 16<sup>th</sup> notes, chromatic scale

## May/June:

- Playing songs utilizing a capo
- Playing popular/classic songs
- Final playing and singing a song of student choice
- Written final

## **Wilson Area School District Planned Course Materials**

**Course Title:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Text Book:**

Hal Leonard Complete Edition Guitar Method, 1994

**Supplemental Books and Resources**

- H.O.T. Hands on Training First Year Guitar
- Hal Leonard Fingerstyle Guitar
- Hal Leonard Easy Pop Rhythms
- Hal Leonard Even More Easy Pop Rhythms
- Hal Leonard Simple Songs
- Hal Leonard First 50 Songs You Should Play on Solo Guitar
- Hal Leonard Easy Pop Melodies
- Ultimate-Guitar.com
- musictheory.net

# Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 1:** Introduction to the Guitar

**Time Frame:** 1 week

**State Standards:** 9.1 B, 9.1 H

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Identify the parts of the guitar.
- Proper care and identification of a guitar.
- Tune a guitar using a digital tuner.
- Identify high and low pitches and pitches that are higher/lower than a first pitch.
- Use correct body posture and LH (left hand) RH (right hand) positions.
- Let's get started-learn string 1 notes and basic down strum.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- Label guitar case with name/phone number.
- Drill to memorize the names of the parts of the guitar.
- Use polish and a soft cloth to clean the guitar's exterior.
- Practice hearing high and low pitches; differentiate this terminology with loud and soft .
- Play 2 notes and determine if one is higher or lower.

**Extensions:**

- Students must take home guitars to practice
- Students can practice with each other on identifying the parts of the guitar
- Students and teacher can correct body posture and LH/RH positions

**Remediation:**

- One-on-one assistance
- Remediation before and after school or during a study hall
- Sign out of study halls when the teacher has lessons or a prep period to practice

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction
- Guided practice
- Individual/group practice
- Oral and aural review

**Materials & Resources:**

- Hal Leonard Methods Book
- Student/teacher guitars

**Assessments:**

- Questioning
- Direct observation
- Quiz on guitar parts
- Show me good posture and the correct LH/RH position
- Individual playing

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 2:** Music and Guitar Terms; Reading and playing individual notes on the staff; Rhythm and counting

**Time frame:** 6 weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1 G, 9.2 B

**Essential content/Objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Keep a steady beat using down strum and recognize the symbol for it.
- Demonstrate the correct fingerings for strings 1-4 in first position.
- Read and play strings 1-4.
- Define and utilize the following music terms: bar line, double bar line, time signature, treble clef, quarter notes, half notes, whole notes, dotted half notes, pick up notes, and ties.
- Play various melodies on the guitar utilizing strings 1-4 and the above music terms.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- With the teacher, practice keeping a steady, down-beat strum.
- Label correct note names.
- Play songs/simple melodies using strings 1-4 from the book and supplemental books.
- In a group and alone, practice all the songs.

**Remediation:** One-on-one time during assigned class time or before/after school or during a study hall.

**Extensions:** Use websites to seek alternate song repertoire

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction
- Group discussion
- Group/individual guided practice
- Peer collaboration
- Modeling

**Materials & Resources:**

- Hal Leonard Methods Book
- Teacher song books
- Online songs

**Assessments:**

- Teacher Observation/Correction
- Playing assessments

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 3:** Guitar Chords/Songs; Rhythm and Counting; Reading and playing individual notes on the staff.

**Time Frame:** 13 weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 A, 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1D 9.1 G, 9.2 C, 9.3 A, 9.3 D

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the LH position for D, A, G, E, Em, Am, and C chord progressions.
- Play three chord songs from the H.O.T. book using steady down-beat strum pattern for each progression.
- Count simple and advanced rhythms
- Define the following music terms: Chord, progression, scale, key, I, IV, V7.
- Demonstrate the correct fingerings for strings 5-6 in first position.
- Read and play strings 5-6.
- Play various melodies on the guitar utilizing strings 5-6.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- Learning about different time signatures 3/4, 4/4.
- Practice counting various rhythms.
- Practicing, in a group/alone, strum patterns from pg. 94 and choose which ones go best with songs in 3/4 and 4/4.
- Learn how to read a chord diagram and determine LH placement on the correct string/fret for the first 7 chord progressions.
- Practice chord progressions alone and in a group.
- In a group and alone, will practice all of the three chord songs from the H.O.T book.
- Play songs/simple melodies using strings 5-6 from the book and supplemental books.

**Remediation:**

- One-on-one assistance during classroom instruction, before/after school and during study halls
- Students must practice at home to reinforce classroom learning

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction through modeling
- Guided group/individual practice
- Peer collaboration

**Materials & Resources:**

- HOT book
- Hal Leonard book
- Guitars
- Supplemental song books

**Assessments:**

- Teacher Observation/correction
- Playing assessments
- Written assessment of labeling note names
- Midterm performance

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 4:** Strumming; Adding more rhythms; Rests; Sharps and key signatures

**Time Frame:** 6-8 weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 A, 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1 D, 9.1 G, 9.2 C

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Define sharps, key signatures, quarter, half, whole, and 8<sup>th</sup> note rests, 8<sup>th</sup> notes, and dotted quarter notes.
- Play three chord songs from the H.O.T. book using down and up strokes.
- Count simple and advanced rhythms.
- Learn how to play the guitar in second position.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- Practice counting various rhythms and rests.
- Play the national anthem utilizing 8<sup>th</sup> notes and sharps.
- In a group and alone, will practice three chord songs and chord progressions utilizing different strumming patterns.
- Individually create their own strumming patterns for simple three chord songs.
- Play songs/simple melodies using sharps and new key signatures.
- Play songs in second position.
- Play songs using different key signatures.
- Review of rhythms, counting and all chord progressions in ensemble.

**Extensions:** Students can look up other songs to practice using different strumming techniques.

**Remediation:**

- One-on-one in class assistance before/after school and study halls
- Use of [www.musictheory.com](http://www.musictheory.com)

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction using modeling
- Peer collaboration

**Materials & Resources:**

- HOT student
- Hal Leonard book
- Supplemental song books

**Assessments:**

- Teacher/Peer observation and critique
- Quizzes
- Playing assessments

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 5:** Tablature; Power Chords; PIMA; Carter Style

**Time Frame:** 4-5 weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 A, 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1 G, 9.3 C

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Read and demonstrate tablature.
- Read and play power chords.
- Play chords using the PIMA technique.
- Read and play carter style.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- Play exercises using power chords and tablature.
- Accompany songs utilizing the PIMA technique and variations.
- Play Row, Row utilizing tablature and the Carter style technique.

**Extensions:** Guitars go home for practice of PIMA.

**Remediation:**

- One-on-One during class, before/after school or study halls
- Use of [www.musictheory.com](http://www.musictheory.com)

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction using modeling
- Guided practice in ensemble/alone
- Peer collaboration
- Oral/aural review

**Material & Resources:**

- Hal Leonard Guitar Book
- Supplemental songbooks

**Assessment:**

- Playing assessments

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 6:** Pentatonic Scale; 12 bar blues; Moveable Power; Triplets

**Time Frame:** 2-3 weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 A, 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1 G, 9.2 C

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Play different guitar licks utilizing the pentatonic scale.
- Play different guitar licks using tablature and a variety of rhythms.
- Understand how the 12 bar blues work.
- Play different guitar licks utilizing tablature and moveable power chords.

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- Play a variety of guitar licks and power chords using a variety of rhythms while reading tablature.
- In a group practice the 12 bar blues
- Each student will improvise a solo utilizing the pentatonic scale while the rest of the class accompanies using the 12 bar blues.

**Extensions:** Students can create more improvised solos.

**Remediation:** One-on-one during class, study hall or before/after school

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction using modeling
- Peer collaboration
- Guided group and individual practice

**Materials & Resources:**

- Hal Leonard Guitar Book
- Supplemental song books
- Online resources

**Assessments:**

- Teacher Observation
- Playing assessments

## Curriculum Scope and Sequence

**Planned Course:** Acoustic Guitar for Beginners

**Unit 7:** Scales; 16<sup>th</sup> notes; Chromatic scale; Introduction to Barre Chords; Popular songs; Final Project

**Time Frame:** 5-6 Weeks

**State Standards:** 9.1 A, 9.1 B, 9.1 C, 9.1D, 9.1 G

**Essential content/objectives:** At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate C, G, D, and chromatic scales and the pattern of whole and half steps.
- Understand how Barre chords are formed.
- Play songs using 16<sup>th</sup> notes.
- Play popular songs using guitar chords.
- Choose a song of their choice and sing and play at the same time

**Core Activities:** Students will complete/participate in the following:

- A review of random chords, rhythms, counting, pitch names and staff locations
- Play the C, G, and D major scales.
- Play the chromatic scale ascending and descending in the first position.
- Brief overview of Barre Chords and how they are formed using the E and A chords.
- As a group, learn how to play along with a variety of classic pop songs using chords.
- Choose a guitar song using ultimate-guitar.com that each student will play and sing as a recital at the end of the year.

**Extensions:** Students can choose extra songs to practice using ultimate-guitar.com

**Remediation:** One-on-one during class, study hall or before/after school

**Instructional Methods:**

- Direct instruction using modeling
- Peer collaboration
- Guided group and individual practice

**Materials & Resources:**

- Hal Leonard guitar book
- Supplemental song books
- Online resources

**Assessments:**

- Teacher Observation
- Playing assessments
- Written final