Middle School Guitar
APP0700

**Course Description**
Have you ever dreamed of playing the guitar? Whether you love music, want to play guitar for your family and friends, or desire to be a music star, this course is a great place to start. No prior music experience is needed. You will learn the fundamentals of music and the basic skills necessary to play a wide variety of music styles. Student guides, Carlos and Ariel, will guide you through each step of this journey towards becoming a skilled guitarist and musician.

**Rationale**
Learning to play the guitar helps a student develop hand-eye coordination and the ability to handle more than one task at a time. Through the guitar course, students work on creativity, memory, and other brain tasks.

**Prerequisite**
None

**Measurable Learning Outcomes**
A. The student will learn the parts of a guitar.
B. The student will learn to tune and hold the guitar.
C. The student will learn about chords, chord progressions, melodies, and harmonies.
D. The student will learn about rhythm and time signatures.
E. The student will learn to read notes, tablature, and charts.

**Course Materials**
See LUOA’s [Systems Requirements](#) for computer specifications necessary to operate LUOA curriculum. Also view [Digital Literacy Requirements](#) for LUOA’s expectation of users’ digital literacy.

This course makes use of third-party digital resources to enhance the learning experience. LUOA staff and faculty have curated these resources. Students can safely access them to complete coursework. Please ensure that internet browser settings, pop-up blockers, and other filtering tools allow for these resources to be accessed. See Technologies and Resources Used in this Course below for a specific list.
Materials Required for Purchase

The following materials are required in this course:

- A playable six-string guitar and a way to record and submit a video performance to your instructor.
- A guitar is “playable” if it is the correct size for the guitarist, is easy to press the strings down against the frets, and plays in tune up and down the fretboard.
- There are three common types of six-string guitars: classical, steel string, and electric. If you do not already have a guitar, you may want to seek the advice of an experienced guitarist, a guitar teacher, or your local music store. Most guitars are built to be played right-handed, so that the right hand would pluck the strings and the left hand would press the strings down against the frets. Many left-handed guitarists play right-handed guitars. Many guitarists and teachers recommend that left-handed students try playing on a right-handed guitar when first learning. There are some guitars available that are built to be played left-handed. This course is taught using a right-handed guitar. Students choosing to use a left-handed guitar will need to adjust accordingly.

Scripture Attribution

- Grades 7-12: All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. May not copy or download more than 500 consecutive verses of the ESV Bible or more than one half of any book of the ESV Bible.”
- Sixth grade is a “transition” grade in which both NIV® and ESV are used as students are introduced to the ESV translation.

Technologies and Resources Used in this Course

The following resource(s) are used throughout this course:

- Embedded Guitar Course
Course Grading Policies

The student’s grades will be determined according to the following grading scale and assignment weights. The final letter grade for the course is determined by a 10-point scale. Assignments are weighted according to a tier system, which can be referenced on the Grades Page in Canvas. Each tier is weighted according to the table below. Items that do not affect the student’s grade are found in Tier 0.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Assignment Weights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A  90-100%</td>
<td>Tier 0  0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B  80-89%</td>
<td>Tier 1  25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C  70-79%</td>
<td>Tier 2  35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D  60-69%</td>
<td>Tier 3  40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F  0-59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order for students to receive credit for a course, the following conditions have to be met:

1. All semester exams and module tests have to be completed,
2. All Tier 3 projects or papers have to be completed, and
3. Fewer than 10 zeros exist in the gradebook for blank submissions in a full credit course, 5 zeros for blank submissions in a semester course, and 3 zeros for blank submissions in a quarter course.

Course Policies

Students are accountable for all information in the Student Handbook. Below are a few policies that have been highlighted from the Student Handbook.

Types of Assessments

To simplify and clearly identify which policies apply to which assessment, each assessment has been categorized into one of four categories: Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, or Test. Each applicable item on the course Modules page has been designated with an identifier chosen from among these categories. Thus, a Quiz on the American Revolution may be designated by the title, “1.2.W Quiz: The American Revolution.” These identifiers were placed on the Modules page to help students understand which Honor Code and Resubmission policies apply to that assessment (see the Honor Code and Resubmission policies on the pages that follow for further details).

- **Lesson:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as a “Lesson”*
  These include instructional content and sometimes an assessment of that content. Typically, a Lesson will be the day-to-day work that a student completes.

- **Assignment:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as an “Assignment”*
  Typical examples of Assignments include, but are not limited to, papers, book reports, projects, labs, and speeches. Assignments are usually something that the student should do his or her best work on the first time.
• **Quiz:** Any item on the Modules page designated as a “Quiz”
  This usually takes the form of a traditional assessment where the student will answer questions to demonstrate knowledge of the subject. Quizzes cover a smaller amount of material than Tests.

• **Test:** Any item on the Modules page designated as a “Test”
  This usually takes the form of a traditional assessment where the student will answer questions to demonstrate knowledge of the subject. Tests cover a larger amount of material than Quizzes.

**Resubmission Policy**

Students are expected to submit their best work on the first submission for every Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, and Test. However, resubmissions may be permitted in the following circumstances:

• **Lesson:** Students are automatically permitted two attempts on a Lesson. Students may freely resubmit for their first two attempts without the need for teacher approval.

• **Assignment:** Students should do their best work the first time on all Assignments. However, any resubmissions must be completed before the student moves more than one module ahead of that Assignment. For example, a student may resubmit an Assignment from Module 3 while in Module 4, but not an Assignment from Modules 1 or 2. High School students may not resubmit an Assignment without expressed written permission from the teacher in a comment.

• **Quiz:** Students may NOT resubmit for an increased grade.

• **Test:** Students may NOT resubmit for an increased grade.

If a student feels that he or she deserves a resubmission on a Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, or Test due to a technical issue such as a computer malfunction, the student should message his or her teacher to make the request, and that request will need to be approved by a Department Chair.

**Consequences for Violations to the Honor Code**

Every time a student violates the Honor Code, the teacher will submit an Honor Code Incident Report. The Student Support Coordinator will review the incident and allocate the appropriate consequences. Consequences, which are determined by the number of student offenses, are outlined below:

• **Warning:** This ONLY applies to high school Lessons and elementary/middle school Assignments and Lessons. Students should view these actions as learning opportunities.
  • **Lessons:** A zero will be assigned for the question only.
  • **Elementary/Middle School Assignment:** The student must redo his or her work; however, the student may retain his or her original grade.

• **1st Offense:**
  • **Lesson, Quiz, or Test:** The student will receive a 0% on the entire assessment.
  • **Assignment:** The student will either:
• Receive a 0% on the original assignment
• Complete the Plagiarism Workshop
• Retry the assignment for a maximum grade of 80%

• 2nd Offense: The student will receive a 0% and be placed on academic probation.
• 3rd Offense: The student will receive a 0% and the Faculty Chair will determine the consequences that should follow, possibly including withdrawal from the course or expulsion from the academy.

Materials Selection Policy
LUOA curates educational materials that are consistent with the school’s philosophy; however, the fallen human condition depicted in literature (as in Scripture itself) is not always pleasant. Valuable works sometimes have objectionable or profane elements. Good books provide four (4) recognized values.
• They build godly attitudes and character traits.
• They deepen our social and cultural awareness.
• They strengthen our use of written language.
• They provide a lifelong source of enjoyment and relaxation.

In order to instill these values in students and fulfill the stated objectives of the school, all LUOA students are expected to read and study good books on a regular basis. Recognizing that materials designed for one level may not be appropriate for another, three (3) levels of criteria are applied:
• Elementary materials must contain no objectionable material,
• Objectionable elements in sixth through eighth-grade materials must be limited and must serve a specific educational purpose, and
• Objectionable content may be included in high school materials but must be outweighed by positive literary, curricular, and/or Christian value.

Department chairs have approved required educational materials for students.
Scope and Sequence
Middle School Guitar

Module 1: Let’s Play Guitar
Module 2: Let’s Rock!
Module 3: Strumming Chords
Module 4: Reading Guitar Music
Module 5: Reading Guitar Music
Module 6: Strumming Chords
Module 7: Guitar Jam Session
Module 8: You Rock!