

A close-up photograph of a person's hands playing an acoustic guitar. The guitar has a light-colored wooden body and a dark fretboard. The person is wearing a dark blue button-down shirt. The text "Course Content Guitar 11" is overlaid in white on the guitar's body.

Course Content Guitar 11

EBUS Academy



Introduction:

In Guitar 11, learners will gain an even broader understanding of music and the guitar's place in history. Students will refresh their theory from Guitar 10 as well as begin learning about sheet music and how to write their own music. Over our 44 lessons/exams students will competently learn about the scales, notes and modes of the guitar, and learn how to combine their knowledge of theory with practice.



Lesson 1: Review: Opening Class -

To get into the groove we will start by going over the basics in a condensed way, covering the anatomy of guitar, tuning, chords and note names. Students will be musically reinvigorated and ready to learn. Everyone will think about the music they like and what they personally hope to be able to play.

Lesson 2: Review: Chords & Notation -

Students will be given a new song to learn featuring a lead or rhythm part. The song will feature many of the chords they already know as a class. Students will also be reintroduced to the 12 notes and the concepts of sharp/flat and naturals.

Lesson 3: Review: Scales & Note Names -

Students will take a look again at the major and minor scale and the 12 notes of the guitar. We will look at how these notes relate to one another, and how, using select notes, we can make the major scale.

Lesson 4: Time Signature; 4/4 Timing -

This class will be dedicated to practicing 4/4 timing and playing in time. We will also take a look at other common time signatures, how to read a time signature and why knowing this information can help tighten up our playing.

Lesson 5: Articulation -

Students will practice their techniques and learn better ways to articulate notes and play their scales. They will also practice the major scale in different areas of the neck and practice hybrid picking.

Lesson 6: The Circle of Fifths -

Students will learn how to read a circle of fifths, use it as a tool for learning, as well as how to write, and create their own circle of fifths for reference sake. We will learn exactly what makes it so powerful for beginners and professional musicians alike.

Lesson 7: Key Signature -

Students will take a deep look at why some notes sound great together and why some sound out of place. They will learn the easiest way to identify the key of a song and how they can use that knowledge to play along with songs they don't know how to play. This class will introduce students to assigning numbers to the chords they're playing as well as the I V VI IV chord progression.

Lesson 8: Key Signatures in Sheet Music -

We will take a second look at key signatures and how we can easily identify them with limited knowledge or from scratch as well as how they're written in sheet music. Students will take a second look at their circle of fifths and how sharps and flats can be used to determine a key signature quickly and easily.

Lesson 9: Majors and Minors in Key -

Students will learn how to fit the many major and minor chords they know into any key and where they naturally fit in, as well as interesting and less traditional chords that can "fit" into a key. We will take a look at famous songs and determine which key they're in. Students will also need to begin thinking of the first song they're going to play for the upcoming test.

Lesson 10: History of Music -

In our first look at musical history in Level 2 we will look at some famous contemporary groups/artists from the 20th and 21st centuries and analyze how to write the guitar for their music and the keys we play in. We will take a small focus on The Beatles and explore some of their more interesting chord choices.

Lesson 11: Bar Chords -

In this lesson we will tighten up our bar chords and make sure everyone knows how to play a major and minor version of every chord rooted on the E and A string.

Lesson 12: Genre Studies -

Students will learn about the predominant genres played on guitar starting with blues and folk and moving to contemporary rock and pop. They will look at most mainstream genres and what guitars impact and influence has been in each of them.

Lesson 13: Strings/Ironing out the Kinks -

In our last class before the first test we will focus on the practical side of playing with tips and tricks for getting a better sound. We will also take a look at the different gauges of strings and which will sound/feel the best on their guitars. Everyone will be encouraged to pick up a brand new pack of strings for Lesson 14.

Lesson 14: Changing the Strings/Guitar Maintenance Review -

In this lesson students will learn how to string and restring a guitar using some of the accessories and tools suggested before, and what household items they can use as substitutes. They will learn more advanced techniques for knotting the strings so they don't slip. Students will be encouraged to change their strings along with the instructions.

Lesson 15: Theory: Intervals -

Students will begin to learn about the bedrock of musical theory, intervals and the theory surrounding them. They will learn about how each note relates to every other note and how some of these intervals have been viewed in church music and secular music throughout the ages.

Lesson 16: How Intervals Relate to Scales -

After learning all the intervals we will learn how we create scales by using them and how every scale comes from the intervals. This will give context to the major and minor scale and what makes them sound as happy or sad. We will also begin learning other scales and how they just use different orders of the same intervals.

Lesson 17: Practice: Class Song -

In this class we will take a break from learning theory to brush up on our practical skills by learning a new song. This song will feature mostly leads that students will need to learn. Their skills with hybrid picking and note articulation will be put to the test.

Lesson 18: Triads -

We will begin to take a deeper dive into musical theory looking at triads and how they form chords. Students will take a look back at all the chords they've learnt so far and break them down to individual notes, identifying which notes are the 1st, 5th or 3rd of the chord and how to change or add on to any chord.

Lesson 19: Stacking Thirds and Complex Chords -

We will use our knowledge of triads and how chords are made to "create" chords from scratch. Students will learn the fundamentals of creating any chord by adding or taking away various intervals.

Lesson 20: Review -

In this class students will review all the theory they've learn over the past few lessons. From intervals, scales, keys and chords they will keep the unique qualities of each fresh in their minds.

Lesson 21: Creative Process/Songwriting -

Using our knowledge of key signatures and how to play chords in key, we will think about making our own songs and what the process would be. Students will combine the chords they already know as well as their knowledge of key signatures to create their own chord progression.

Lesson 22: Developing Ourselves Musically -

In this lesson students will have to really think about music they love and what inspires them. They should determine what kind of music they want to create, and what is the right guitar for them. This class will also look over some famous examples of players and their stories.

Lesson 23: Electric Guitar vs Acoustic Guitar -

In this class we will take a look at the electric guitar and its impact on modern music, as well as the dynamic advantages and disadvantages to playing electric over acoustic. This class will feature a rundown on how to plug into and use an amp and an overview on the knobs and pickups that make an electric guitar different.

Lesson 24: Class Song -

We will learn our next song. These will be eclectic and in different genres to give students a taste and appreciation for different kinds of music. These new songs will continue to challenge the students with attainable musical goals. Students will need to begin thinking of the second song they will be playing for their test.

Lesson 25: Soloing with the Relative Minor -

Students should have a strong grasp on key signatures and where the minor scale fits in relation to the major scale. In this lesson we will look at how to play a guitar solo over any chords by determining the key and playing in the relative minor. We will look at what makes a good guitar solo and how to make good or interesting note choices.

Lesson 26: Guitar Solos (Continued) -

In this lesson we will continue to develop our ability to play guitar solos using the minor scale or the pentatonic minor scale and how to play musically, instead of just quickly. We will also look at soloing in a major scale and when major or minor would be more applicable.

Lesson 27: Mini Concert/Playing to a Metronome -

In this lesson we will look over the three songs we now know how to play, and play them all together, forming a "mini concert". This will test the students' abilities to jump back into the song when they fall off as well as playing in time. Students will be encouraged to practice doing the mini concert alone with their fourth song added to it.

Lesson 28: Theory and Practice Review -

This is the final review before Exam#2. We will go over all the theory from the note names to the intervals to the scales.

Lesson 29: Tablature vs Sheet Music -

Students will learn the advantages that sheet music has over tabs, and the starting basics of how to read sheet music. Students will need to find tabs or sheet music to their chosen songs.

Lesson 30: Song Practice -

We will learn more songs. These songs will range from easy songs that the students will have a simple time with to songs they may need to practice.

Lesson 31: Song Practice (Continued) -

Students will continue to work on songs the instructor has selected, and practice at home. These songs will all have a teachable moment whether in theory or practice.

Lesson 32: Sharps/Flats in the Circle of Fifths -

Students will be taught when sharps and flats should be labeled differently and how they fit into key signatures. This will relate back to the circle of fifths and how some keys only have sharps and others only have flats.

Lesson 33: Advanced Chords -

In this lesson students will put their knowledge of triads and the major scale to use as they stack thirds to create more complex and interesting chords such as 7th, 9th and suspended chords. Students will already know how to play suspended chords by this point but will be given knowledge of why a chord is suspended instead of being simply another major or minor.

Lesson 34: Cultural Appropriation -

In this lesson students will be given an understanding of the historical context of music such as the blues and why it's an important building block of western music. They will also discover how to be influenced by other cultures without appropriating them and find a personal voice in music. This class will focus on cultural appreciation and the line between appreciation and appropriation.

Lesson 35: Fundamentals of Reading Sheet Music Part 1 -

In this class we revisit the circle of fifths and how it can interact with other elements of music. We also talk about how to read sheet music and the many different rhymes one can use to remember the placement of the notes on the musical staff.

Lesson 36: Fundamentals of Reading Sheet Music Part 2 -

We continue to look at the fundamentals of reading and writing sheet music and its many advantages over tablature. We will focus on the bass and treble clef.

Lesson 37: "Jamming" with Other Musicians -

Each student will learn the fundamentals of playing with another musician using the universal language of music theory. Using our rhythm skills to think of cool chords that are in key together and thinking of musical leads using the pentatonic minor scale.

Lesson 38: Review of Sheet Music/Circle of Fifths -

We take another important look and review of all the concepts we've learnt thus far about sheet music, key signatures, intervals and triads. This information should remain fresh in students' minds for the upcoming test. Students will also need to work on their final song for the course.

Lesson 39: Writing Our Own Songs -

Students will flex their creative muscles and write their own songs. These can include lyrics or be just guitar. Students will use their knowledge of key signatures to come up with chord progressions and think of either lyrics or lead lines to play over top. Students need to consider their final song to play.

Lesson 40: Playing songs Quickly -

We will learn tips and tricks for learning songs quickly and how to play in the key of the original without being sloppy. This will be a fun challenge.

Lesson 41: Final Review -

We will review all the important theory we learnt throughout Level 2, and what steps the students can take to further their guitar playing when class is over.

