

Start Improvising Now: Pentatonic Scales

Improvisation is the heart of social music making. In this mini course, students will learn the basics of pentatonic scales: how they are created and how to play them on guitar- including tips and ideas to apply those skills to improvisation and everyday practice. This is a hands-on, interactive course where students play guitar throughout!

How much is the course?

The course is free for all students.

Where does the course meet?

Your classroom/school.

What is included in the course?

Instruction and handouts. Students must supply their own guitar, pencil and music stand.

Are there any prerequisites?

Students must read notation, tablature, chord charts, and be able to find notes in first position- including accidentals. The minimum age is about 12.

Is there an enrollment limit?

In order to provide individual attention, the course has a capacity of about 20 students.

How long is the course?

The course is 60-90 minutes (longer than 60 minutes recommended).

How do I enroll?

Enrollment is made by the teacher for his/her class. Please contact us to discuss details.

How do I prepare my students for the class?

You can prepare students by reviewing notation and tabs (including accidentals). Recognizing key signatures (or the concept of key signatures) will also help.

What will the students learn?

Students will learn how to improvise on their instrument. They will experience improvisation from theoretical and intuitive perspectives. Students will approach improvisation in a guided, group setting so as to gain confidence while having the tools to seek further learning.

Formula for major scales (whole and half steps)

Common key signature: C, G, D, A, F, Bb, Eb

Pentatonic

Movable pentatonic scales

Let's put it all together: key, melody, chords

NJGMS provides participating teachers with a Professional Development certificate for this course.



**New Jersey Guitar
& Music Society**