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The Curriculum: Ukulele

Grade One/S1 & S2

Available on:

digiMats



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Preface

Welcome to the comprehensive guide for the "Musicality Evaluation Examination" syllabus, designed and curated by NMAG India (Nirvana Music Academy Gitanjali India). This book serves as a valuable resource for all aspiring musicians and music enthusiasts who wish to embark on a journey of self-discovery and excellence in the realm of music.

At NMAG India, we firmly believe in nurturing the musical potential within every individual and fostering a deep appreciation for the art of music. Our mission is to provide a platform that empowers students to explore, learn, and excel in various musical disciplines, and the "Musicality Evaluation Examination" is a testament to this commitment.

This syllabus has been thoughtfully crafted by our team of experienced music educators and industry experts to offer a holistic and progressive learning path. Whether you are a beginner starting your musical voyage or an experienced musician seeking to refine your skills, this book caters to a wide range of proficiency levels and musical interests.

Throughout these pages, you will find a diverse range of musical concepts, techniques, and theory that will help you develop a strong foundation in your chosen musical instrument or vocal discipline. From mastering the fundamentals of rhythm, melody, and harmony to exploring advanced performance techniques and musical interpretation, this syllabus covers a comprehensive array of topics.

Moreover, the "Musicality Evaluation Examination" aims to instill in students the virtues of perseverance, creativity, and a passion for artistic expression. It is not just about memorizing notes or playing scales but about understanding the language of music and discovering your unique voice within it.

We encourage all students to approach this syllabus with an open mind and a willingness to explore the vast world of music. Embrace the challenges, savor the joys of musical discovery, and allow the power of music to enrich your life in profound ways.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated faculty members, whose expertise and guidance have shaped this syllabus into an exceptional learning resource.

We also extend our appreciation to all the students who have entrusted us with their musical journey and inspired us to continuously evolve and innovate.

Remember, music is not a destination; it is an ever-evolving voyage of self-discovery. As you embark on this transformative journey with NMAG India's "Musicality Evaluation Examination" syllabus, we wish you the utmost joy, growth, and fulfillment in your pursuit of musical excellence.

Let the music guide you, and may your passion for music continue to resonate with the world.

Happy learning and making music!

Sincerely,

Olive Ghosh

Principal (2010-till present),

Founder and Director,

NMAG India (Nirvana Music Academy Gitanjali India)

Director of Board, MEE (Musicality Evaluation Examination)



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Ukulele:

Grade One/S1

First Month

1. Parts of the ukulele and their functions.
2. Standard Tuning of the Ukulele.
3. Basic Strumming Patterns.
 - a. Straight Groove.
 - b. Eighth note groove.
4. Learning Ergonomics.
 - a. Posture.
 - b. Holding a note.
 - c. Barre.
 - d. Fingerstyle
5. Timings & Rest.
 - a. Whole-note.
 - b. Half-note.
 - c. Quarter-note.
 - d. Eighth-note.

Second Month

6. Reading Tablature.
 - a. “October Rain” - Warmup
 - b. “Coconut’s Dream” - Warmup
7. Note-reading: Treble Clef.
 - a. Completing the entire “Note Reading Worksheet: Treble Clef”.
8. Position of notes on the Fret.
9. Fret Board chart.
10. Chromatic Movements.



Third Month

1. Basics of Fingerstyle on Ukulele.
2. Understanding Articulations.
 - a. Accent.
 - b. Legato.
 - c. Staccato.
 - d. Staccato with Palm Muting.
3. Accentual Articulations
4. Free and Rest.
5. Introduction to Fingerstyle playing
 - a. Thumb
 - b. Index
 - c. Thumb-Index
6. Learning Scales and Chords

Fourth Month

1. Applying Fingerstyle on Chords.
2. Understanding Major and Minor Scales.
 - a. Major Scale
 - b. Natural Minor Scale
 - c. Harmonic Minor Scale
 - d. Melodic Minor Scale
3. Learning Intervals
4. Chord Construction and Harmonization
5. Transposition
6. Exploring Different Strumming Patterns

Fifth Month

1. Chord Inversions.
 - a. Root Position.
 - b. First Inversion
 - c. Second Inversion.
2. Barre Chords



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3. Advanced Fingerstyle Patterns
4. Chord Inversions and their Applications
5. Playing Songs using barre chords and Inversions

Sixth Month

1. Single-note melodies on the Ukulele.
2. Introduction to Scales:
 - a. Major Pentatonic Scales
 - b. Minor Pentatonic Scales
3. Basic Soloing Techniques.
 - a. Bend
 - b. Hammer
 - c. Pull-of
 - d. Glissando
 - e. Tapping
4. Learn a new standard or Song.



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Ukulele: Grade One/S2

Seventh Month

1. Basic Song Arrangements using Ukulele
2. Learning Counterpoints.
3. Learning Cadences.
4. Study of Anatomy of Song.

Eighth Month

1. Understanding Syncopation.
2. Syncopated Rhythmic Patterns.
 - a. Off-beat
 - b. Division level
 - c. Suspension
3. Syncopation with Chord Changes

Ninth Month

1. Understanding Swing Rhythm
2. Understanding Shuffle Rhythm
3. Learning A Song based on “Swing Rhythm”

Tenth Month



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1. Understanding a Song Structure
2. Expressive Strumming.
3. Creating own Structure and arrangement.
4. Interpretation of Songs and rearrangement.

Eleventh Month

1. Travis Picking Technique.
2. Classical fingerstyle patterns.
3. Learning a Classical Piece on Ukulele.

Twelfth Month

1. Preparing for a Final Performance.
2. Collaborating with other musicians.
3. Solo and ensemble playing.
4. Creating own project and arrangement and submission of Final Project.

Note: Each monthly segment will consist of weekly lessons, practice assignments, and assessments to ensure steady progress. Regular practice and participation in group activities will be encouraged to enhance learning and foster a sense of community among students.



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