

Shred/Metal Course for SWS Music

This is the outline for a 10 week 'shred' course for SWS Music which mainly concentrates on technique and speed.

Each lesson should last for 1.5 hours with the final lesson lasting 2 hours to allow the students to demonstrate all the knowledge they've acquired during the course.

Students should already have knowledge of:

- The CAGED system
- Pentatonic Scales (Major and minor)
- The Major scale
- How to play arpeggios
- Bar chords

Applicants could upload a video of themselves to YouTube and send us the link so that we can assess their level for the course.

Week 1 - Alternate Picking:

- Explanation/Demonstration and Chromatic Exercises
- Arpeggios and Broken-Chords
- 2 Note-per-String Scales/Ideas
- 3 Note-per-String Scales/Ideas
- 4 Note-per-String Ideas
- Put it all together and Jamming

Week 2 - Sweep Picking & Arpeggios:

- Explanation/Demonstration and Economy/Sweep Pick the same content as previous week
- Sweeping Arpeggios - Major, minor, diminished
- Combining Scales with Arpeggios
- Alternate vs Economy Picking
- Putting it all together and Jamming

Week 3 - Legato:

- Play all previous content just using legato (if applicable)
- Left-handed hammer-ons - working on the neglected index finger
- Putting it all together and Jamming

Week 4 - Tapping:

- Right-Handed Tapping - using the middle, ring and pinky fingers (whilst holding a pic)
- 8-finger-tapping

- Combining Legato ideas with Tapping
- Putting it all together and Jamming

Week 5 - Rhythm Techniques:

- Reading Rhythms
- Understanding Note Values (1/4s, 1/8s, 1/16s etc)
- Right-hand Metal Rhythm Workout
- Detuned Methods
- Putting it all together and Jamming

Week 6 - Vibrato and Bending:

- Vibrato Techniques
- Bending Techniques
- Whammy-Bar Tricks and Uses

Week 7 - Harmony and Sound:

- Harmonising using 2 or more guitars
- Harmonising in 3rds, 4ths, 5ths
- Parallel harmonies vs diatonic
- Application and Jamming (Performing as an entire group. Maybe a classical piece)

Week 8 - Style Study (part 1):

- Guthrie Govan
- Paul Gilbert
- Integrating these styles into your own playing

Week 9 - Style Study (part 2):

- Yngwie Malmsteen
- John Petrucci
- Integrating these styles into your own playing and jamming

Week 10 - Putting It All Together:

- Reviewing everything that we've been through and applying it - maybe make this lesson 2 hours.