Introduction to Chess

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**Course Description:** Starting with no knowledge in chess, students will learn how to name every piece, how to move pieces in their most effective ways, and how to keep learning to become better. After this course, students will be able to play full matches with thought and participate in chess tournaments with confidence.

**Class Time:** 9:30 am to 10:30 am, Sunday

**Course Objectives:**

* Name and move the pieces on the board
* Use various tactics with each piece
* Use various opening and checkmate patterns
* Use various tactics to attack and defend
* Know a variety of chess resources to practice and improve

**Course Requirements:**

* New to chess or has a chess rating of up to 300
* K-12 grades

**Course Materials:** To successfully learn and improve throughout this course, students will need the following materials:

* A chess set- including one chessboard and chess pieces. Example chess set: <https://www.amazon.com/Wholesale-Chess-Archer-Set-Combo/dp/B009RSFQD2>
* An account on chesskid.com for learning and practice resources.
* Chess notation sheets. Example: <https://www.printabledocs.net/printable-chess-score-sheets/>
* An account on chess.com to play games with the instructor

**Tentative Schedule for the Year:**

Fall semester

* Classes 1 to 5:
  + Orientation
  + Chess pieces (how they move, what their names are)
  + Checks
  + Parts of the board
  + Pawn promotions
* Classes 6 to 9
  + Values of pieces
  + Capturing pieces
  + Attackers and defenders
  + Notation
* Classes 10 to 13
  + Introduction to checkmate
  + Checkmate with a queen
  + Checkmate with 2 rooks
* Classes 14 to 15
  + Stalemate
  + Basic planning and strategies
  + Playing some games

Spring semester:

* Classes 1 to 2
  + Back rank checkmate
* Classes 3 to 6
  + Opening (starting a game)
* Classes 7 to 8
  + Hanging pieces, positioning pieces to attack
* Classes 9 to 12
  + Forks, pins, and skewers
  + Use tactics (forks, pins, and skewers) to win pieces
* Classes 13 to 14
  + Discovered attacks
  + Double checks
  + king and rook checkmate
* Class 15
  + Tournament rules
  + Class tournament