Course Syllabus

Semester: Fall 2019
Course Title: Guitar Class I
Course Number: MUSI 1192
Instructor: Stephen Nutt
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
An introduction to basic techniques and concepts of acoustic guitar based on classical guitar technique, as well as music fundamentals such as reading chord symbols and simple melodies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The goal of this course is to give students a solid foundation in musicianship and technique as applied to the guitar and to expose them to different styles of music using the guitar as the medium. Students will learn chords and major scales in first position, bar chords, right hand finger-styles, how to use a plectrum and basic music reading and chord theory.

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate proper seating position as well as left and right hand position
2. Know all natural notes in first position
3. Recognize natural notes in treble clef up to fifth fret A
4. Play at least one major scale form and five major chord forms in first position
5. Play assigned music literature

UNIT S OF INSTRUCTION

Music reading exercises
Major chords and scales
Right hand arpeggio exercises, left hand dexterity exercises
Repertoire

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Teaching methods will include lectures, demonstration of techniques, group practice and student performance.

EVALUATION

Grading is based on the performance of exercises and pieces throughout the semester. Emphasis is on a slow, steady tempo and clean tone production. This enables total beginners to perform on a more equal basis with more experienced players, thus making grading more equitable. Daily exercises as well as two semester exams will constitute the basis for grading. The student will be expected to individually practice techniques and styles demonstrated in class for a minimum of 20-30 minutes each day.

Grading scale: A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=0-59
Daily exercises – 1/3 of grade (demonstration of performance skill, effort, regular practice and progress)

Midterm exam – 1/3 of grade (assigned material to be played individually in class)

Final exam – 1/3 of grade (assigned material to be played individually in class)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Participation in class rehearsal and lecture/demonstration is crucial to student mastery of assigned coursework. In order to encourage regular attendance, daily grades (see Class Schedule) WILL NOT be made up without documentation of illness or emergency. However, there will be several opportunities for extra credit assignments (such as attending an approved concert and writing a one page review, or writing a two page biography of a guitarist or composer, etc.) which will allow the student to replace a missed daily grade.

Final exams cannot be given early. Communication with the instructor is strongly advised in case the student must miss several classes for any reason.

INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

_Institutional Policies relating to this course may be accessed from the following link:_


ACADEMIC CALENDAR

https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/GenerallInfo/AcadCalendar/academic_calendar.cfm
LEARNING UNITS: ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS (May be subject to change without notice depending on class progress)

Week 1

1. Discussion of various types of guitars/styles of playing
2. Guitar terms. Tuning. Memorize open string names. Read pp. 7-13

Week 2

2. Holding the guitar/striking the strings/rest stroke, basic chord forms.

Week 3


Week 4

2. Basic chord forms from memory. Read and practice pp. 24-25.

Week 5

1. Performance of pp. 24-25

Week 6

1. Performance of pp. 28-29

Week 7

2. Practice p.32, 12-Bar Blues progression
Week 8
1. P.32, cont'd

Week 9
1. Performance of pp. 36-38.

Week 10

   DAILY GRADE: OPEN CHORDS  E,A,D,G,C

Week 11

Week 12

Week 13

   DAILY GRADE: "NATURAL SCALE", p. 47 (all natural notes in first position)

Week 14
Review chords/accompaniment styles.
Week 15

   COMPREHENSIVE GRADE: NOTE RECOGNITION (on the instrument and in the Treble clef),
   CHORDS, SCALES, ASSIGNED PIECE

Week 16 - Final Exam

**Suggested Reading**

The Christopher Parkening Guitar Method, Vol. 1

Author: Christopher Parkening, Jack Marshall and David Brandon

Publisher: Hal Leonard Corporation

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