

COURSE OUTLINE

Music 153
Contemporary Guitar I

I. Catalog Statement

Music 153 is a course in guitar playing in a variety of contemporary styles. Students learn contemporary guitar techniques, triads, moveable chords, major scales, and minor scales. Emphasis is placed on reading of music in the lower positions of the guitar in several keys. Repertoire is drawn from a variety of contemporary guitar styles including but not limited to country, rock, blues, and jazz.

Total Lecture Units: 1.0

Total Studio Units: 0.5

Total Course Units: 1.5

Total Lecture Hours: 16.0

Total Studio Hours: 16.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 32.0

Recommended Preparation: MUSIC 150 or equivalent.

Note: This class requires the student to have a full-size guitar in playable condition.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 5; Writing 5; Listening/Speaking 5; Math 2

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. demonstrate proper performance posture and technique;
2. recognize standard music notation and its application to the guitar;
3. demonstrate the ability to tune the guitar;
4. demonstrate open position chords and rhythm guitar techniques;
5. demonstrate major scales in multiple keys in the open position;
6. demonstrate basic open position guitar repertoire.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate proper performance posture and technique at the beginning to intermediate level;

2. demonstrate reading of standard music notation for the guitar;
3. demonstrate moveable and barre chords;
4. demonstrate major scales in at least five keys in the open position;
5. demonstrate minor scales in at least three keys in the open position;
6. demonstrate intermediate open position guitar repertoire.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 32

A. Reading Music Notation on the Guitar	Lecture 2 hours
1. Rhythmic values of notes and rests up to sixteenth notes	Studio 2 hours
2. Dotted rhythms	
3. Notes in the first position	
B. Rhythm Accompaniment	Lecture 2 hours
1. Reading rhythm guitar parts	Studio 2 hours
2. Rhythm patterns for various styles	
3. Rhythm techniques for various styles	
C. Open Position Solo Repertoire	Lecture 4 hours
	Studio 4 hours
D. Open Position Duet Repertoire	Lecture 2.5 hours
	Studio 2.5 hours
E. Development of Correct Posture and Tone	Lecture 1.5 hours
1. Folk position and standing techniques	Studio 1.5 hours
2. Plectrum technique	
3. Fingerstyle technique	
4. Speed studies	
F. Harmony and Chords	Lecture 2 hours
1. Triads	Studio 2 hours
2. Seventh chords	
3. Barre chords and moveable chords	
G. Major Scales	Lecture 1 hour
1. Open position C, G, F, D, and A	Studio 1 hour
H. Minor Scales	Lecture 1 hour
1. Open position Am, Em, and Dm	Studio 1 hour

V. Methods of Instruction

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. lecture and demonstration;
2. applied performance;

3. discussion and review;
4. listening and analysis;
5. online materials.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. practice;
2. written assignments and exercises (e.g. identifying names of notes and locations of pitches on the guitar);
3. listening to music.

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. performance evaluations;
2. midterm examinations;
3. final examination and performance.

VIII. Textbooks

Snyder, Jerry. *Guitar School: Method Book 2*. Van Nuys: Alfred, 2006. Print.

12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 9780739002599.

* Best and most current publication available at this time.

Leavitt, William. *A Modern Method for Guitar – Volume 1*. Boston: Berklee Press, 2005.

Print.

12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 9780876390696.

* Best and most current publication available at this time.

Bay, William and Mike Christiansen. *Mastering the Guitar Class Method: Level 1*.

Pacific: Mel Bay Publications, 2001. Print.

12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 9780786659692.

* Best and most current publication available at this time.

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate proper performance posture and technique at the beginning to intermediate level;
2. demonstrate reading of standard music notation for the guitar;
3. demonstrate moveable and barre chords;
4. demonstrate major scales in at least five keys in the open position;
5. demonstrate minor scales in at least three keys in the open position;
6. demonstrate intermediate open position guitar repertoire.