A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 2/Critical Thinking, Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy

Basic knowledge of guitar technique including: tuning the guitar, chords and chord strumming (open chords), performing songs, fret board logic (how the fret board is laid out), exercises, scales, and melodic improvisation, music notation reading (music literacy), barre chords, guitar maintenance. No previous music knowledge necessary.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): November, 2014

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. The six open strings
2. Tuning the guitar
3. Note Reading
   a) All notes on the guitar fret board (Fret board layout)
   b) Reading of tablature
   c) Note reading (standard notation) in first position - all six strings
4. Scales
   a) The Chromatic, Pentatonic, and Blues scales
   b) All Major and minor scales
   c) Scales “around the circle,” clockwise and counter-clockwise
5. Chords
   a) Open chords and bar-chords, fingering and strumming
   b) All sixth and fifth string root bar-chords (Major and minor)
   c) Changing chords
   d) Barre Chords (moveable fingerings)
   e) 7th Chords (Major, minor, and Dominant)
6. Basic Music Theory
7. Strumming Technique
   a) Basic pulse, rhythm strumming
   b) 4 to the bar and 2 to the bar
   c) Syncopated strumming patterns in Blues, Reggae, Country rock, and Rock and Roll
8. Melodic technique (exercises and scales)
9. Learning and performing songs
   a) Internet sites to help with song learning and performing
   b) Online tablature
   c) Word and Chord notation
   d) Learning songs with Youtube.
10. Basic chord progressions
    a) I – IV – V progressions
    b) II – V – I progressions
    c) Ascending Perfect 4th and 5th progressions
11. Improvisation
    a) Improvising Melodies with the Major, Blues, and Pentatonic Scales
    b) Introduction to the blues (rhythm, harmony, progression, melody)
12. Basic Guitar Maintenance
    a) Changing strings
    b) Cleaning and oiling the fret board
    c) Polishing the guitar
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate the ability to perform popular music styles by strumming chords from “chord chart” notation
2. Demonstrate the ability to perform simple melodies by reading standard notation and guitar tablature
3. Show knowledge of the guitar fret board and scale patterns by performing major/minor scales from memory
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic music concepts by taking written quizzes and final exam.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2: Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions, which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 6: The Humanities—the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
1. Weekly performance assignments
2. Written quizzes
3. Written Final Exam
4. Performance Final Exam
5. Semester Portfolio

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:
☐ Communication ☑ Critical Thinking ☐ Civic Responsibility
☐ Critical Thinking ☐ Personal/Professional Accountability
☐ Global Awareness/Diversity ☐ Aesthetic Response

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None