

Course discipline/number/title: MUSC 1431: Beginning Guitar Class

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Other requirements: None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 6/The Humanities—the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy.

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION: 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.

C. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): February, 2021

D. 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

- E. **LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL):** The student will be able to:
1. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
 2. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
 3. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- F. **LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):**
Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:
1. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
 2. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
 3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
- G. **METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:** Methods may include but are not limited to:
1. Weekly performance assignments
 2. Written quizzes
 3. Written Final Exam
 4. Performance Final Exam
 5. Semester Portfolio
- H. **RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S).** This course contributes to meeting the following RCTC Core Outcome(s):
Critical Thinking. Students will think systematically and explore information thoroughly before accepting or formulating a position or conclusion.
- I. **SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):** None