

## *Course Syllabus*

### **Course Information**

MUSI 2315-002 (Guitar I)

### **Professor Contact Information**

James Wilder

e-mail: jew042000@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

N/A

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to enable the student to develop a rudimentary understanding of classic guitar style, as well as the ability to employ the technique. Students will also learn the fundamentals of reading sheet music for the guitar.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

- I. Study the fundamentals of musical notation beginning with the open strings and guitar technique (sitting position, basic free and rest strokes).
- II. Begin learning the natural notes in the first position of the guitar from the first down to the sixth string.
- III. Learn to read and sharps, flats, key signatures and chords. Learn a solo guitar composition.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

**Frederick Noad's *Solo Guitar Playing: Book One, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.*, A Classical guitar, and a footrest.**

Students who do not own and are unable to otherwise obtain a classical guitar may be able to borrow a guitar from the UTD Arts & Humanities department through our instrument loan program. Guitars borrowed from the department must be returned on final exam day.

You will need to bring your guitar, footrest, Noad book, and a pencil to each class. Aside from using your phone to tune, I expect you to put it away while we practice – don't get booted from class for having your eyes on a text rather than your music!

### **Suggested Course Materials**

It would be of great value for you to use a metronome in your practice. Numerous free smart phone apps for metronomes are available as are free websites online.

Likewise, it would be beneficial for you to have regular access to an electronic tuner as you should and will most likely need to tune your guitar on a daily basis. As in the case of metronomes, free smart phone apps and websites are available.

### **Assignments & Academic Calendar**

Week 1: Introduction, parts of the guitar

Week 2: Introduction to music reading, open strings (Holiday Jan 21<sup>st</sup>)

Week 3: Notes on the first string

Week 4: Notes on the second string

Week 5: Exercises on first and second string

Week 6: Chords and arpeggios, notes on the third string

Week 7: Notes on first, second, third and fourth string

Week 8: Written MID-TERM (Tues, March 5th)

Week 9: Review

Week 10: Spring Break (March 11th-15th)

Week 11: Technical exercises, Notes on the fifth and sixth strings

Week 12: Accidentals, Introduction of Final Exam piece

Week 13: Concert Repertoire, Review

Week 14: Rehearsal

Week 15: Rehearsal

Week 16: Review, Fall Arts Festival Performance (May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm)

Week 17: Final performance exam (May 7<sup>th</sup>)

You will be required to attend two guitar concerts from the guitar events calendar this semester:

UTD guitar events are free to UTD students with their photo I.D. The guitar events this semester are:

**Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 8pm**

**Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 8pm**

**Mar 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>**

**Various**

**You will submit a two-page, double-spaced paper summarizing your impressions of one concert, the performer(s), and the music involved. Provide a program from the concert along with your paper. More details about these concerts can be found at:**

<http://www.utdallas.edu/ah/events>

**Papers should consist of a critical analysis of the guitar playing that takes place at the events attended on a technical and aesthetic level. Suitable topics to address include but are not limited to how the technique is employed, whether or not it resonates with the technical issues we've discussed in class, which pieces of music do and do not appeal to you and why, etc. (Don't forget – Describe, Interpret, Evaluate!!!)**

-You will participate in a concert during the Arts and Humanities Division Spring Arts Festival (Date May 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm).

### **Grading Policy**

You will take mid-term and final exams of equal weight. The mid-term will be written, and the final will be performing. Together, those exams will be worth 70 percent of your grade. Your performance at the Arts Festival will be worth 20 percent. Finally, your concert attendance and paper is worth 10 percent of your final grade.

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

You will be allowed two excused absences. Each subsequent absence will result in the dropping of your final grade by half of a grade letter (i.e.-Four absences will mean that the highest grade one could make would be a B.) Tardiness will also result in lower final grades. Two late classes will be the equivalent of one absence. Make sure you get to class with your instrument on time and ready to practice!

### **Field Trip Policies**

#### **Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities**

Off-campus, out-of-state, foreign instruction/travel, and course-related field trip activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities.

Detailed information regarding this policy, in accordance to *Texas Education Code*, Section 51.950, can be accessed at the UT Dallas Policy Navigator, <http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdbp3023>, and at <http://www.utdallas.edu/administration/insurance/travel>. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.

#### **Student Conduct & Discipline**

The University of Texas System (Regents' Rule 50101) and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UT Dallas online catalogs (<http://catalog.utdallas.edu>).

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Student Code of Conduct, UTDSP5003

(<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>). Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of Community Standards and Conduct, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SSB 4.400, 972-883-6391) and online at <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/>.

A student at the University neither loses their rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules.

Students are subject to discipline for violating its standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

#### **Technical Support**

If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas Office of Information Technology Help Desk: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call 972-883-2911.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Helpdesk: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/eLearningHelpdesk.html>.

*Course Syllabus Page 4*

#### **Campus Carry**

The University's concealed handgun policy is posted on the campus carry website:

<https://www.utdallas.edu/campuscarry/>

#### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment.

Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here: <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/>.

#### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

#### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled. Last day to drop with a W is June 8th, 2017.

#### **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

#### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

#### **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind.

Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation.

Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

**Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

*These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*