

MUS1472: CLASS GUITAR II

Spring 2013 - Wednesdays, 3:35pm - 5:30pm

Room: Ferguson Hall 105

Instructor's name: Brendan Lake (please feel free to call me Brendan)
Instructor's e-mail: brendan.lake@gmail.com (or lake0103@umn.edu)
Office: Ferguson Hall - Room 116
Office hours: By appointment, or I'm available before and after class.

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

This course is intended as an expansion on acoustic and classical guitar techniques employed in contemporary guitar playing learned in MUS 1471. The emphasis will be on finger style (classical) techniques, music reading and guitar music theory (scales, progressions, chords) necessary for **a)** playing and writing songs and **b)** basic improvising skills. During the course, students will be introduced to the professional world of guitar by attending 2 guitar concerts.

OVERALL GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Learn how to play and build advanced chords shapes and harmonies on the guitar and how to play songs using this knowledge.
2. Learn how to read and play basic classical guitar music.
3. Broaden the knowledge of the instrument and become familiar with classical guitar history and its repertoire.
4. Learn how to listen and criticize different interpretations.
5. Improve skills effectively working with others.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend and actively participate in class.
2. Work on assigned materials
3. Attend two guitar concerts or guitar studio classes and write a one-page description for each. **Please be sure to grab a program and include it in your submission.** Many concerts are free of charge and held at U of M, School of Music. Make sure you plan this in advance. Please refer to Concert Attendance Paper instruction for more details. **Papers must be turned in within one week of the event.**
4. Take all exams.

GRADING

20 points.....	Mid term exam (10 written/10 performance)
20 points.....	Final exam (10 written/10 performance)
10 points.....	Two guitar concert review papers (5 points each)
10 points.....	Two assignments (5 points each)
<u>40 points.....</u>	<u>Class attendance and participation</u>
100 points.....	Total

Policy on absences: You're allowed to miss three classes, excused or unexcused, so please plan accordingly. When you attend, you're expected to bring your guitar, participate in group exercises, and practice during the week when exercises and pieces are assigned. Each day will be worth 4 percent of your grade (10 required classes x 4 = 40 points).

If there are extenuating circumstances where you would need to miss more than three classes, please contact me. To request a grade of 'incomplete', please refer to the university policies and procedures.

TESTS

You will have a mid-term exam (written and playing test) and final exam (written and playing test). Pieces for the playing tests will be posted on my website (www.brendanlakemusic.com). You may also choose a non-assigned piece with the instructor's approval.

Exam dates:

Midterm written exam: March 6

Midterm performance exam: March 13

Final written exam: May 1st

Final performance exam: May 8th (the last scheduled day of class)

OR on the scheduled final exam time. You'll get to choose which day.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be two assignments due. The first will be a transcription assignment. I'll provide you with a couple mp3s (to be posted on my website). The first recording will consist of a melody that you'll transcribe in both tab and standard notation. The second recording will be a sequence of chords which you'll need to figure out.

The second assignment will be a standard homework sheet covering many of the topics from the semester. It's primarily to make sure you understand the important principles before you're tested on them for the final.

TEXTBOOK

Required: Solo Guitar Playing 1 by Frederick Noad, Fourth edition

Recommended: Scott Tennant's Pumping Nylon (available with or without tablature)
Aaron Shearer's Scale Patterns Studies (Supplement 3: Classic Guitar Technique)

OTHER CLASS POLICIES

Please bring an acoustic guitar (nylon string preferably, but steel string is ok) to class every day, unless otherwise instructed. Electric guitars are strongly discouraged, as there is little room for an amplifier. If this is an issue, please contact me.

All lecture files, handouts, and website links will be posted on my website www.brendanlakemusic.com (under the heading "For Students"/"MUS1472"). I will also be emailing you with important notices and reminders, so please check your UMN email regularly.

Weekly schedule: (subject to change based on class progress and interests)

1st week – 1/23

- Introduction to class
- Lecture on guitar equipment Part 1
- Pretest & Student lecture requests

2nd week - 1/30

- Ways of reading guitar music
- Exercises
- Review basic chords
- Strumming patterns
- Two octave major scale - Pattern #3
- Tuning methods, pros and cons

3rd week – 2/6

- Reading notes - Noad: Lessons 3 & 4
- Giuliani's right hand exercises
- Harmonics: natural and artificial
- Movable chords
- "5" chords, aka power chords
- Bar chords
- Lecture on guitar equipment Part 2

4th week – 2/13

- Noad: Lessons 5 & 6
- Two octave minor scale - Pattern #2
- Shifting from Pattern #2 to Pattern #3

- Ear training – Intervals m2, M2
- Chord theory: Major and minor scales harmonized
- Chord progressions
- Tips on transcribing melodies and chords

5th week – 2/20 - Due: ASSIGNMENT 1: Transcriptions

- Noad: Lessons 7 & 8
- Symmetrical chords
- Fully-diminished 7 chords
- Augmented chords
- Musicality
- How to practice
- Ear training – Intervals m3, M3

6th week – 2/27

- Noad: Lesson 9
- Scale pattern #1 - “Phrygian pattern”
- Half-diminished chords
- Ear training – Intervals P4, P5
- Spelling chords
- Review midterm pieces

7th week – 3/6

- Performance anxiety
- Scale pattern #4 - “Dorian pattern”
- Sign up for midterm performance times
- Last minute questions for midterm written exam
- Review of midterm piece
- Comparing interpretations of pieces

MIDTERM WRITTEN EXAM for the second half of the class

8th week – 3/13

MIDTERM PERFORMANCE EXAM (only show up for your appointed time)

9th week – 3/27

- Noad: Lesson 10
- Rasgueados
- Basic jazz chords
- Spelling jazz chords

10th week – 4/3

- Noad: Lesson 11
- Scale patterns review
- Scale pattern #1 (“Phrygian pattern”)
- Twelve bar blues & blues scale
- Improvisation

11th week – 4/10

- Noad: Lesson 12 (only work on exercises - skip the five pieces)
- Scale pattern #4 (“Dorian pattern”)

12th week – 4/17 - Due: ASSIGNMENT 2: Homework covering previous topics

- Noad: Lesson 13
- Using scale patterns
- Bossa Nova pattern
- Final exam pieces

13th week – 4/24

- Noad: Lesson 14 & 15
- CAGED chord system
- Easy chord/melody arrangements
- Review for the final
- In-class narrative performance by instructor

14th week – 5/1

- Sign up for final performance times
- Teacher evaluations
- Review of final performance piece

FINAL WRITTEN EXAM for second half of the class

FINAL PERFORMANCE EXAM - only show up for your appointed time

5/8 (During regular class time)

OR

The scheduled final exam time