

# **MUS 1231 : Guitar Class I**

## **Dr. Timothy Crist**

### **I. Primary Texts**

Shearer, Aaron. *Classic Guitar Technique, vol. 1*. New York : Belwin Mills, 1969.  
Crist, Timothy. *Guitar Class Packet Supplement*

### **II. Necessary Equipment**

An Acoustic Guitar with strings (a classical guitar with nylon strings is highly recommended)

A Metronome

A footstool (optional)

### **III. Description**

Guitar Class. 1 hr. ; Open to all ASU Students. Meeting Fall Semester only, the Guitar Class is an introductory course to learning the fundamentals of guitar playing. The course will focus on learning basic chords, conventional strumming techniques and finger picking, and notes in first position as well as learning the general technique of guitar playing.

Students will become familiar with the fundamental techniques of playing classical and selected popular, unaccompanied guitar styles. These techniques range from sitting position, hand positions, and nail care, to tuning, note reading, melody playing, arpeggio study, and melody and accompaniment type textures. Students will also learn basic musicianship as they discover ways to interpret musical ideas and be introduced to a variety of popular music styles. Emphasis will be placed on the study of classical guitar technique.

#### IV. Tentative Calendar

##### Week 1

Introduction; The Guitar's Construction; String Designations; Basics of Musical Notation (treble clef, note reading, time signatures 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, 6/8); Notes on the Open Strings; Tuning Methods.

##### Week 2

Sitting Position; Left and Right Arm Positions; Left Hand Finger Positions; Rest-Strokes; Notes on the Open Strings; Notes on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Strings; Left hand finger designations (PIMA).

##### Week 3

Basic Chords I (Major chords); Rhythm (simple note values); Strumming Patterns.

##### Week 4

Basic Chords II (Minor Chords); Rhythm (the dot and the tie); Strumming Patterns; Quiz I.

##### Week 5

Bar Chords; Duets; Slur Exercises; Free Strokes; Notes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> String.

##### Week 6

Arpeggio Studies : *Etude no. 4; Prelude no. 8; Prelude no. 9.*

##### Week 7

Nail Care; Notes on the 4<sup>th</sup> String; *Etude no. 6*; Midterm Audit.

##### Week 8

*Prelude no. 10*; Combining Single Notes with Arpeggiated Chords; *Moorish Dance.*

##### Week 9

Notes on the 5<sup>th</sup> String; *Etude no. 7; Prelude no. 11.*

##### Week 10

Notes on the 6<sup>th</sup> String; *Etude no. 8; Prelude no. 12.*

##### Week 11

Scale Study; *Etude no. 9.*

##### Week 12

Scale Study (con't); Two Notes Played Together; *Etude no. 10; Etude no. 11*; Quiz II.

##### Week 13

*Folk Song; Prelude no. 13*

##### Week 14

*Allegro; Prelude no. 15a; Prelude no. 16*

##### Week 15

Country Blues-Type Picking Patterns; Final Audit

## **V. Course Requirements**

The student will have two exams (audits). One at Midterm and one during Week 15. Each of these audits will involve an individual performance by each student for the instructor. The student will perform prepared pieces and/or techniques as required by the instructor at these times. Criteria for the evaluation of each student by the instructor will be based on the following: preparation, demonstration of proper technique, correct pitches, correct rhythms, coordination/fluidity. "Spot check" quizzes during the semester will involve in-class evaluations of individual students. Finally, a percentage of each student's final grade will involve daily class preparation and attendance.

## **VI. Visiting Artists**

In the case that visiting guitarists perform at ASU, the class may be required to attend such performances. The class may also be required to attend student guitar recitals.

## **VII. Required Reading**

Shearer, Aaron. *Classic Guitar Technique, vol. 1*. New York : Belwin Mills, 1969.

Crist, Timothy. *Guitar Class Packet Supplement*