

University of Florida
School of Music
MVS 1116 Class Guitar (Introductory Level)
Dr. Silviu Ciulei
Fall 2023
T | Period 9 (4:05 PM - 4:55 PM)
MUB 0145
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Office: University Music Auditorium #301
Office Hours: M/W 10:00-11:00 a.m. or by appointment

SYLLABUS

Text

Marsters, Nancy. First Year Guitar, 5th edition. Tallahassee: Class Guitar Resources, 2015.

Requisite materials include an acoustic guitar with nylon (classical) or steel strings (no solid body electric guitars) and a guitar footstool.

Course Description and Objectives

This course is an introduction to guitar skills and is intended for students with no prior experience. Emphasis will be on the achievement of basic proficiency in chord playing, note reading, strumming patterns and basic finger styles. A variety of musical styles will be explored. Students are encouraged to ask questions during, before, or after class regarding specific playing goals and projects. Students will complete all assigned material and will practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day.

Attendance

Attendance for any instrument class is imperative.

For information on UF attendance policies please see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Students who are absent from class are responsible for materials covered during that class period. Lack of an instrument or textbook after the first day of class will be considered an unexcused absence. Each subsequent unexcused absence will lower the student's final grade by one grade increment (B becomes B-, etc.)

Evaluation

Proficiencies: 75% total (Exam 1 – 25%, Midterm – 25%, Final Exam – 25%)

Proficiency areas include chords, chord progressions, note reading, song techniques and scales. Proficiency due dates will be announced in class. Proficiencies are performed in class and are graded. The average of the proficiency grades will determine this portion of the student's final

grade. The number of proficiencies is subject to change through the course of the semester. The class will be notified of such changes at least two weeks prior to the end of the semester.

Assignments and class participation: 25% total (see participation rubric attached)

Assignments will be group projects, looking up chord progressions and learning songs, printing materials in preparation for class. Class participation means actually being present in class, attentive, answering questions and showing knowledge of the materials covered in class, asking questions about certain aspects relating to class, and playing along with the rest of the class.

Class Participation Rubric

Criteria	1	2	3	4
Preparation	<u>Unprepared</u> for class with assignments, homework, and required class materials (guitar, footstool, book)	<u>Partially prepared</u> for class with assignments, homework, and required class materials (guitar, footstool, book)	<u>Mostly prepared</u> for class with assignments, homework, and required class materials (guitar, footstool, book)	<u>Fully prepared</u> for class with assignments, homework, and required class materials (guitar, footstool, book)
Musical Engagement	<u>Does not participate</u> in musical activities (e.g., singing, listening, playing instruments, answering questions about covered material). Exhibits a lack of interest in the activities	<u>Some participation</u> in musical activities (e.g., singing, listening, playing instruments, answering questions about covered material)	<u>Active participation</u> in musical activities (e.g., singing, listening, playing instruments, answering questions about covered material) has occasional lapses in participation	<u>Active participation</u> in musical activities (e.g., singing, listening, playing instruments, answering questions about covered material) throughout the entire class

Tentative Class Schedule (Subject to change)

Week 1 – Getting Started (Posture, Sitting Position, Holding the Guitar)
Week 2 – Playing Rhythm Guitar
Week 3 – Playing the Melody
Week 4 – Playing R-5 Bass and the Three-Person Combo
Week 5 – Barre Chords
Week 6 – Exam I
Week 7 – Major Scales and Key Signatures
Week 8 – Arpeggios
Week 9 – Tablature
Week 10 – Natural Notes: Frets 1-12
Week 11 – Midterm
Week 12 – The 6/8 Time Signature
Week 13 – Rock Guitar: Power Chords, Electric Guitar and Amp Features
Week 14 – Major Scales and Chords
Week 15 – Transposition and Capo Use
Finals Week – Final Exam

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestext>

Online course evaluation process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

Student Conduct and Honor Codes can be viewed here: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/>

The Dean of Students Office

Cheating on exams and using someone else's ideas in a written paper without providing proper recognition of the source (plagiarizing) are serious matters. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing is subject to an automatic E for the course and further disciplinary action by the Student Honor Court.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.