

## **Syllabus**

MUS 237/437 Studio Guitar – Fall 2016

Nicholas Lambson, Instructor

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Office hours will be announced to the class as soon as times are established. When announced, students should write this information in the space provided here:

### **Course description:**

Private instruction on guitar. Students will study and prepare selections designated by the instructor, which will include technical exercises including scales and etudes, in addition to a varied selection of repertoire. Technique will not only be developed to allow each student to play more difficult repertoire, but to prevent injury. Any student experiencing soreness, discomfort, or pain should discontinue daily practice and contact the instructor immediately. Additionally, students will develop their skills with note reading, fretboard theory, listening skills, as well as develop the ability to assess and discuss music. Musicality, through principles of phrasing and personal expression, will also be explored. Students will work to acquire the requisite skills for advanced guitar playing in order to provide for artistic creativity and expression.

This course fulfills Area C requirements.

### **Required and recommended texts, readers, or other reading materials for this course include:**

Students must provide their own instruments - preferably nylon string classical guitars. Students must also have a footstool, ErgoPlay, or similar device. All students should have their own electronic tuners and a metronome. Students should plan on two or more new sets of strings per semester. Students will need to have new strings a week prior to any performance. Students may be required to purchase a method book, scores, recordings, or an activity book for their studies in addition to the above requirements. The commonly used materials are listed below, and are available in the campus bookstore:

*Solo Guitar Playing, Volume 1* by Frederick Noad

*Student Repertoire Series, Volume 1* by Lawrence Ferrara

*The Guitar Note Speller* by Aaron Shearer

There are scores and materials available for checkout through the instructor, and ensemble scores are available through the department's music library.

### **Other Recommended:**

Online Retailers: Stringsbyemail.com and GSPguitar.com

Strings: D'Addario EJ45, normal tension. Other brands to consider are Augustine, Hannabach, and Savarez

Tuners: Clip-on tuners are recommended, especially for ensembles. I use a Peterson.

K&M Footstools and Music Stands

ErgoPlay: Accessory for guitar technique. All models available to studio students.

Online Scores:

IMSLP.org,  
Royal Danish Library – REX (<http://www.kb.dk/en/nb/materialer/musik/>),  
Eythorsson Guitar School (<http://eythorsson.com/the-guitar-school/>),  
Delcamp.net (<http://www.delcamp.net/liens/pdf.htm>)

Music Apps: Free tuners, metronomes, tab, and recording apps available. Read reviews!

Local Music Shops:

Arcata - Wildwood Music  
Eureka - Redwood Music Mart/Fortuna Music Mart  
- 2 Street Music/Mantova's  
McKinleyville - Mantova's

**Course Requirements:**

All evaluative materials are designed to develop the student's ability to play the guitar both technically and artistically. Beyond daily practice, lesson preparation, and attendance, students will be required to do the following:

*Recording Report:* Students in the studio are required to listen to at least two hours of classical guitar recordings each semester. You can learn a great deal from listening to professionals, and it is a great way to explore the repertoire as well. Some overview is encouraged, but some very detailed examination of one or more performance is required. Some topics to explore include stylistic, cultural, nationalistic, historical, and social elements extending to race and gender. Students should also discuss technical and interpretative aspects such as tone, phrasing, dynamics, etc. and any specific techniques used such as tremolo and rasgueados.

This paper differs from the Repertoire Summary, which focuses on a piece that a student has been learning, while this is much broader and will cover a variety of repertoire and performances. The cover page will list the relevant information including album titles, performers' names, composers' names, and full piece titles. Students will then write about what they listen to in at least 500 words.

*Repertoire Summary:* To gain a deeper understanding of their repertoire, students will research and discuss one piece of repertoire from their studies each semester. Topics may include style, emotional content (be prepared to qualify your statements), nationality, time period, etc. If it is relevant, you may wish to include other comparable works to aid in your discussion, such as another Gigue by the same composer or a contemporary figure.

This paper differs from the Recording Report, which should be broader and more varied in scope. This paper differs from the Lesson Summary, which focuses on your playing. This piece needs to focus on the music you are playing. Papers need to list the piece's full title, composer's name and dates, and date of composition, in at least 500 words.

*Lesson Summary:* Each student will prepare a Lesson Summary, which gives an overview of your studies over the course of the semester. Topics can include skills or techniques you developed, including any difficulties and success you had. You may want to keep a notebook of your repertoire, and include an assignment sheet that you can update every lesson. This paper should be one, to two, typed double-spaced pages long. This assignment's due date will be announced later in the semester, but will be due no later than in the jury during Finals Week.

This paper differs from the Repertoire Summary, which discusses a particular piece of music you studied, while this is about your progress as a player over the course of the semester.

*Repertoire Nights and Miscellaneous Studio Functions:* The guitar studio frequently has extra-curricular functions designed to immerse each student in the various applications of becoming a fine musician and guitarist. These include Repertoire Nights, an informal performance opportunity for and by the studio guitarists, as well as films, workshops, and more.

*Guitar Event Attendance:* All music majors are required to attend 6 concerts during the semester. Guitar students **must attend at least three guitar functions** each semester. At least one of these functions must be a studio guitar recital. Other options include student Junior or Senior guitar recitals, repertoire night attendance and participation, movie nights, off-campus gig attendance, Van Duzer guitar-specific performances, and instructor performances. When guest artists are arranged, all students must attend the master class and concert, which will count towards the three event requirement, unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. Be sure to sign-in in the lobby for credit. If no sheet is available, submit a program for credit.

*Studio Guitar Recital:* There will be at least one opportunity each semester for guitar students to perform in Fulkerson Recital Hall. All continuing students are expected play, unless the instructor waives that requirement; this means that incoming, first semester students are not required to perform in these recitals, but must play in one Rep Night.

The instructor must approve repertoire, but generally any pieces studied in studio lessons is applicable. Program information should be submitted two weeks prior to the performance date, but no later than one-week prior, and need to include full piece titles, composers' names and dates, and your name as you would like it to appear on the program. Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted and students may not perform.

*Jury Performance:* Each student enrolled in guitar studio lessons must complete a jury performance for the string faculty during finals week consisting of a composition and/or study which best represents your work for the semester. There will be no lessons during finals week.

*Recital Juries:* Students giving a recital must perform in a jury four to six weeks prior to the performance, and will take the place of a regular jury during Finals Week. Students must provide a printed program with historical program notes at the time of the jury. A rough draft of the notes may be required one week prior to the jury.

*General Option Solo Recitals:* All graduating guitar majors are strongly encouraged to give at least a half hour Senior Recital complete with a recital jury and program notes.

*Performance Option:* By audition only. Students enrolled in the Performance Option must perform in at least one recital each semester, give a half hour Junior Recital, and give a full hour Senior Recital in their final semester. Both concerts require a recital jury and program notes. Performance duration times refer to the total music on the program, not including applause and speaking from the stage. Each program should contain entirely new works that have not been performed in other recitals, however exceptions are sometimes made in consultation with the instructor. Works performed in the Junior Recital are not usually eligible to meet the time requirement of the Senior Recital. Ensemble works may be included at the discretion of the instructor, but not usually in place of solo repertoire.

Additionally, performance majors must perform solo in one Friday at Noon Concert. A printed program must be submitted to the instructor. Performance majors will also need to complete two Community Service events, selected from the following:

- Gigs
- Performing for the 108G Beginning Classes, or the 109G Guitar class
- Tutoring or the above classes
- Teaching Assistant or Studio Aid
- Other relevant projects

*Recital Registration:* During a semester of a degree recital, students will receive three units of credit and studio lessons, and will also need to register for a recital for zero units. See the music office for more information.

### **Grading:**

50%	Lesson preparation
15%	Jury performance
10%	Studio Recital Performance/Rep Night Performance
10%	Guitar Event Attendance
5%	Recording Report
5%	Repertoire Summary
5%	Lesson Summary

Students are expected to prepare for each lesson. If you are unable to attend, please notify me in advance. Every unexcused absence will lower the lesson portion of your grade 10 points. Some absences may be excused with sufficient cause, but documentation may be required.

*If students are feeling ill, becoming ill, or just recovering from illness, please email me and do not come to your weekly lesson.*

### **Projected Due Dates:**

*Recording Report:* October 4<sup>th</sup>.

*Repertoire Summary:* December 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Lesson Summary:* December 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Subject to change with fair notice.*

**This course explicitly contributes to students' acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to University Learning Outcomes:**

**Humboldt State University Music Department Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will be able to perform at least one piece in a studio recital.
2. Students will demonstrate appropriate skills in rhythmic accuracy, intonation, balance, blend, dynamics, and phrasing.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to independently diagnose problems, make musical judgments, implement rehearsal strategies, and collaborate in making decisions regarding musical phrasing, dynamics, articulations, and other expressive dimensions of musical performance.
4. Students will demonstrate understanding of aspects of musical performance that distinguish chamber music from large-group experiences (absence of a conductor, one-player-per-part independence, reduced amount of block scoring, soloistic writing, and frequent two- or three-part texture) and will be able to implement strategies to address these issues in rehearsal and performance.

**Humboldt State University Student Learning Outcomes:**

HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

- effective communication through written and oral modes.
- critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues
- competence in a major area of study.
- appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities and viewpoints.

HSU graduates will be prepared to:

- succeed in their chosen careers.
- take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.
- pursue social justice, promote environmental responsibility, and improve economic conditions in their workplaces and communities.

**Area C - Arts and Humanities Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing this requirement, students will:

1. apply discipline-specific vocabulary and central discipline-specific concepts and principles to a specific instance, literary work or artistic creation.
2. respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will differentiate between emotional and intellectual responses.
3. explain the nature and scope of the perspectives and contributions found in a particular discipline within the Arts and Humanities as related to the human experience, both individually (theirs) and collectively.
4. demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and cultural elements involved in the creative arts through their (or, "as a result of their") participation in and study of drama, music, studio art and/or creative writing.

**Policies:**

Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding academic honesty. For more information, visit: [Academic Honesty Policy](#) or [HSU Catalog](#)

**Students with Disabilities:**

Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations should contact the Student Disability Resource Center in House 71, 826-4678 (voice) or 826-5392 (TDD). Some accommodations may take up to several weeks to arrange. [Student Disability Resource Center](#)

**Add/Drop policy:**

Students are responsible for knowing the University policy, procedures, and schedule for dropping or adding classes. [Schedule Adjustments \(Adding or Dropping\)](#)

**Emergency evacuation:**

Please review the evacuation plan for the classroom (posted on the orange signs) , and review [Campus Emergency Preparedness](#)  
[http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/emergencyops/campus\\_emergency\\_preparedness.php](http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/emergencyops/campus_emergency_preparedness.php) for information on campus Emergency Procedures. During an emergency, information can be found campus conditions at: 826-INFO or [Emergency Conditions](#)

**Attendance and disruptive behavior:**

Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding attendance and disruptive behavior: [Class Attendance and Disruptive Behavior](#)