

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Music 127 – Class Guitar II

2 hours lecture, 2 units

Catalog Description

Guitar for non-music majors. Continuation of MUS 126 with an emphasis on reading staff notation in closed positions, playing scales and chords in major and minor keys, and developing both left and right hand technique.

Prerequisite

“C” grade or higher or “Pass” in MUS 126 or equivalent

Entrance Skills

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Hold and execute first position chords.
- 2) Change chords without losing the beat in either the key of C or G major.
- 3) Read and perform rhythms using quarter notes.
- 4) Play the C major and chromatic scales in the first position.
- 5) Identify the primary chords in the key of C major.

Course Content

- 1) Reading and playing solos, duets and arrangements for the guitar
- 2) Scales and chords in the keys of D, A, E and F major
- 3) Relative minor keys
- 4) Bar chords and closed position scale fingerings
- 5) Rhythms using triplet and sixteenth notes in simple and compound meters
- 6) Rudimentary finger style technique
- 7) Twelve bar blues with improvisation

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Read and play guitar music from staff notation in II and V positions
- 2) Play and use the E and A bar chord form with variations
- 3) Employ closed position scale fingerings to play major, minor and pentatonic scales
- 4) Read and perform rhythms using triplets and sixteenth notes
- 5) Strum syncopated accompaniment patterns
- 6) Transpose melodies and chord progressions to other keys
- 7) Read, interpret and play music from lead sheets
- 8) Play basic arpeggio and accompaniment patterns using finger style technique

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) In-class observation of student that measures the student's ability to play and use the E and A bar chord form with variations, strum syncopated accompaniment patterns, and play basic arpeggio and accompaniment patterns using finger style technique.
- 2) Midterm, final exam (written, performance) that measures the student's ability to read and play guitar music from staff notation in II and V positions, employ closed position scale fingerings, transpose melodies and chord progressions to other keys, and play music from lead sheets.

Special Materials Required of Student

- 1) Acoustic guitar
- 2) Music manuscript notebook

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Classroom with chairs without arms, music stands, music staff writing boards

Method of Instruction

- 1) In-class practice and drill
- 2) Lecture and discussion
- 3) Demonstration

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) **Reading:** assigned course content on bar chords, closed-position scales, relative minor keys, fingerstyle techniques, and rhythmic patterns involving triplets and sixteenth notes; review lead-sheet notation, chord symbols, and basic improvisation concepts.
- 2) **Writing:** written worksheets or quizzes identifying key signatures, bar-chord forms (E and A shapes), closed-position scale fingerings, and rhythmic patterns; notate short melodic or rhythmic exercises, including triplet and sixteenth-note passages; write brief reflections on challenges encountered in transposing melodies or reading lead sheets.
- 3) **Other:** practice assigned guitar exercises on an acoustic or electric guitar, including closed-position scales (major, minor, pentatonic), bar-chord progressions, syncopated strumming patterns, fingerstyle arpeggios, and twelve-bar blues forms with improvisation; rehearse solos and duets using staff notation in second and fifth positions; complete assigned listening focused on recognizing stylistic elements, rhythmic complexity, and fingerstyle techniques.

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Sisler, Tad. *GUITAR MASTERY: A Complete Guide: Basics to Virtuoso in Ten Easy Steps*. Modern Renaissance Publishing, 2024.
- 2) Supplemental: Handouts prepared by instructor

Exit Skills

Students having successfully completed this course exit with the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge:

- 1) Read and play guitar music from staff notation in II and V positions.
- 2) Play and use the E and A bar chord form with variations to form major, minor and dominant seventh chords in sharp keys.
- 3) Employ closed position scale fingerings to play major, relative minor and pentatonic scales in the key signatures of C, G, D, A and F.
- 4) Read and perform rhythms using eighth, triplet and sixteenth notes.
- 5) Transpose melodies and chord progressions to other keys.
- 6) Comprehend and interpret music from lead sheets.
- 7) Play basic arpeggio and accompaniment patterns using finger style technique.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Hold and switch closed position barre chords with clear tone and good rhythm.

- 2) Read and perform simple melodies from notation in II and V position.