

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
Applied Guitar Syllabus

Fall Semester 2011

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: MUS 160G, MUS 161-162G and MUS 361-362G:

These courses provide one-on-one private lessons in the study of guitar. The goal is to prepare the student to musically perform appropriate repertoire written or arranged for guitar.

TEXTBOOK:

Music book(s) may very well be required, depending on the individual situation, determined by the instructor. For beginners, a textbook will be found at the college book store listed under MUS 160G.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:

Lessons are for half-hour each for 1 hour credit (160, 161 or 361) and one hour each for 2 hours credit (162 or 362). Access to a guitar is required. A classical, nylon string instrument is strongly preferred over the steel string type of guitar. A limited number of college owned guitars are available for use by students at the instructor's discretion. All students at all levels will be doing scales, technical exercises, and repertoire appropriate for their level of skill as assigned by the instructor. Attendance at one or more music performances on campus may be required for students in all of these course numbers. All music majors and minors (enrolled in the 161 series) will attend the monthly student recitals and perform a jury at the end of each semester. Each jury student will be required to fill out a jury form available on the internet. MUS 160G students are not required to attend the monthly student recitals or play a jury.

Regular, daily practice is expected. For 1 credit hour students, ½ hour a day of practice is the *minimum* expected. For 2 credit hour students, 1 hour a day of practice is the *minimum* expected. *In both cases, at least double the minimum is necessary to produce results for a high grade.* A quiet, private place to practice is essential. If your living situation is not that, use the practice facilities of the college. They're on the top floor of the Music Building.

OUTCOMES:

Students will learn:

- How to read music on the guitar
- Scales and other exercises to develop a good technique
- Skills in playing music with another person
- How to produce a good sound
- Basics of musicianship and phrasing
- Music appropriate for skill level and experience

EVALUATION:

Grading for this type of course is highly subjective. These are factors that affect your grade: Regular, prompt attendance to the lessons, evidence of consistent, daily practice (it's easy for me to tell whether this is the case or not), and the degree to which your practice is producing good progress in your playing. I make it a major part of my teaching to get across to you how to make your practice sessions as effective as possible. If you play a jury, your preparation for the performance at that jury will have a minor effect on the overall semester's grade.

ATTENDANCE:

Your prompt attendance is *required* for all lessons. Since I am not a regular, full-time faculty member, make-up lessons are very difficult to arrange. If you miss a lesson and it is not an officially excused reason, the lesson will not be made up. Officially excused reasons include: you are very ill or injured (not just a minor illness like a cold, for example) or there is a death (yours or someone very close to you). If you have one of these excused reasons you must make every effort to notify me (see contact information above) *before* your lesson time. **In general, please note: one lesson is an entire week of class!** Attendance is essential. If you have a time conflict with another class having an extra event, you must clear that with me ahead of time. ***If at all possible, please work with your other instructors to avoid this situation first.*** Your weekly lesson time is an appointment which is to be respected except for *extreme* circumstances.

Best wishes for the semester!