

MS Guitar Major - Denver School of the Arts

Instructor-Richard Serianni

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Syllabus – 2016-2017

Course Overview:

Students participating in the guitar program will develop guitar-playing skills in various music styles including Classical, Jazz, Guitar Ensemble, and Popular music. Students will become proficient on the guitar in the following areas:

- A. Knowledge of the fret-board in all positions
- B. Proper Left hand techniques
- C. Proper right hand sound production using fingers and flat pick
- D. Music reading, notation, improvisation, harmonization, rhythm, and style
- E. Composition and arranging for guitar in various styles

Course Objectives:

By the end of this school year, students will have:

- Established a daily practice routine that ensures consistent progress on the guitar
- Prepared and performed a varied repertoire of solo and ensemble guitar music
- Composed a varied repertoire of solo and ensemble guitar music

Textbook:

Students will study from a number of guitar music archives and collections. Music composition and arranging will be studied from a variety of texts.

Classroom Behavior Expectations:

- Be respectful to yourself and others.
- Be on-time to class
- Take responsibility for your own learning.
- Engage in appropriate, respectful and responsible communication and behavior.
- Feet on the floor, not on the chairs or tables.
- No food or beverages in classroom (only water in capped bottles).
- No cell phone use during class
- Do not pack up to leave until you are dismissed from class.
- If you break or damage equipment, you are responsible to pay for it.
- Be attentive, and prepared.
- Adhere to all school policies.

Attendance:

Attendance in all classes and at all concerts is mandatory. You are expected to be in class on time, and in your seat ready to work when the bell rings. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out from the instructor what you missed, and how to replace it. For make-up work, unless arranged otherwise, the policy is to allow two days for every one day missed (excused absences).

Student Evaluation:

Multiple assessments will be used including teacher, self, peer, written response, and performance.

Proficiency will be assessed in the following areas:

- A. Performance on guitar**
- B. Music theory**-including music reading, and music history
- C. Music composition and arranging for the guitar**

Arts Probation

Guitar majors are required to maintain an 80% average or higher in Guitar and Music Theory each semester. In the event a student receives a 79% or lower, DSA Administration will place him or her on Arts Probation, a meeting is scheduled and an intervention plan is implemented. Parent(s)/guardian(s), student, teachers, and a member of DSA Administration sign the plan, which outlines expectations, strategies, and procedures designed to assist the student in raising their grade.

Teacher Resources:

Benward, Bruce, and J. Timothy Kolosick. *Ear Training: A Technique for Listening*. 6th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2000.

Berkowitz, Sol, Gabriel Fontrier, and Leo Kraft. *A New Approach to Sight Singing*. 3rd ed. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1986.

Brindle, Reginald Smith. *Musical Composition*. New York: Oxford University Press Inc., 1986

Burkhart, Charles. *Anthology for Musical Analysis*. 6th ed. New York: Schirmer, 2003.

Clendinning, Jane Piper, and Elizabeth West Marvin. *The Musicians Guide to Theory and Analysis*. 1st ed. Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2004

Cope, David. *Techniques of the Contemporary Composer*. Belmont, California: Schirmer, Cengage Learning, 1997

Gorow, Ron. *Hearing and Writing Music-Professional Training for Today's Musician*. Studio City, California: September Publishing, 2009

Harder, Paul and Steinke, Greg. *Basic materials in Music Theory*. Allyn and Bacon, 1991

Harder, Paul and Steinke, Greg. *Harmonic Materials in Tonal Music, Vol. 1*. Allyn and Bacon, 1991

Hindemith, Paul. *The Craft of musical composition*. London: Schott & Company, 1942

Kostka, Stefan, and Dorothy Payne. *Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*. 6th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2008.

Mann, Alfred. *The Study of Counterpoint from Johan Joseph Fux's Gradus Ad Parassum*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1971

Ottman, Robert. *Music for Sight Singing*. Prentice Hall, 1996

Rimsky-Korakov, Nikolay. *Principals of Orchestration*. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1964

Russo, William with Jeffrey Ainis & David Stevenson. *Composing Music-A New Approach*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988

Spencer, Peter. *The Practice of Harmony*. Prentice Hall, 2003

MS Guitar	Semester 1 - Classical Guitar Intensive	
Dates	Assignments, Assessments, Performances	Daily
Week 1	1. Students Assigned Large Ensemble Piece (Music Reading) 2. Begin Daily Classical Guitar Exercises 3. Back to School Night - Thursday, 8/25 5:30-8:30 bell schedule at 6:00	Classical technique exercises, rehearsals and class performances on going.
Week 2	1. Music Theory – Key Signatures MS1 2. Deadline For Choosing Solo Piece (Music Reading)	
Week 3	1. Deadline For Choosing Small Ensemble Piece (Music Reading) 2. Daily Exercise Assessment 9/7	No school 9/5
Week 4	1. Assessment 9/13 – Large Ensemble Music Assessed	
Week 5	1. Assessment 9/20 - Small Ensemble Music Assessed 2. Music Theory – Intervals MS1	
Week 6	1. Assessment 9/27 – Solo Music Assessed 2. Concert Auditions	
Week 7	1. Guitar Concert - Thursday 10/6 - 7:00pm Concert Hall	
Week 8	2. Begin Classical Guitar Compositions 3. Daily Exercise Assessment 10/11	
Week 9	1. Students Assigned Large Ensemble Piece (Music Reading) 2. Music Theory – Triads MS1	No School for students 10/27,10/28
	10/21 end of marking period	
Week 10	1. Deadline For Choosing Small Ensemble Piece (Music Reading)	
Week 11	1. Deadline For Choosing Solo Piece (Music Reading) 2. Music Theory – Review (Key signatures, Intervals, Triads) 3. Classical Guitar Compositions Due 11/1	No School for students 11/2
Week 12	1. Assessment 11/8 – Large Ensemble Music Assessed	Preview Days 11/7, 11/9, 11/11
Week 13	1. Assessment 11/15 - Small Ensemble Music Assessed 2. Music Theory – 7 th Chords MS1	Preview Days 11/14, 11/16
Week 14	No School Thanksgiving Break	11/21-11/25 no school
Week 15	1. Guitar Concert Friday 12/2 -7:00pm - Concert Hall Concert Auditions Monday, Tuesday	
Week 16	1. Final Evaluations Begin Tuesday 12/13 2. Solo Music Assessed, Sight Reading, daily exercises 3. Music Theory – Final (Key signatures, Intervals, Triads, 7 th Chords)	
	12/18 end of marking period	