

MUSP 19A Course Outline as of Summer 2025**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: MUSP 19A Title: BEGINNING GUITAR

Full Title: Beginning Guitar

Last Reviewed: 2/27/2023

Units	Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total		
Maximum	2.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	2.00	Lab Scheduled	1.00	5	Lab Scheduled	17.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 122.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: MUSCP 19A

Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of guitar playing through the use of songs, exercises, solo pieces, demonstrations, and recordings. Students will learn basic technique, playing chords and melodies in the first position, and reading music. Students must provide their own guitar.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:****Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course introduces students to the fundamentals of guitar playing through the use of songs, exercises, solo pieces, demonstrations, and recordings. Students will learn basic technique, playing chords and melodies in the first position, and reading music. Students must provide their own guitar. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area			Effective:	Inactive:
CSU GE:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
IGETC:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2024	Inactive:	
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2024	Inactive:	

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Utilize fundamental concepts of music and apply them to the performance of beginning-level repertoire on the guitar.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate proper right and left hand techniques for playing the guitar.
2. Utilize basic chords in the first position to perform various accompaniment styles.
3. Read chord symbols and tablature notation to perform songs and exercises.
4. Read and interpret music notation to perform melodies on the guitar in the first position.
5. Apply basic music theory to the guitar, including the construction of chords and transposition.
6. Perform solo and ensemble songs drawn from various musical styles.

Topics and Scope:

I. Instrument Fundamentals

- A. Care and maintenance of the guitar
- B. Tuning
- C. Proper posture and playing position
- D. Basic left and right hand techniques

II. Reading Chord Charts and Tablature Notation

III. Basic Chords (I, IV, and V7) in the Keys of C, G, D, A, E, Am, and Em

IV. Accompaniment Styles

- A. Strumming patterns
- B. Arpeggios

V. Fundamentals of Music Notation

- A. Rhythm notation and rests

- B. The notes in first position to the fifth fret
- C. Whole and half steps
- D. Sharps and flats

VI. Basic Music Theory

- A. Scales and key signatures
- B. Chord analysis in Roman numerals
- C. Transposing music to different keys

VII. Playing Songs

- A. Melody and accompaniment
- B. Solo and ensemble
- C. Repertoire
 - 1. Folk songs
 - 2. Rock & roll, blues, country/western, and other popular styles
 - 3. Introduction to classical guitar literature

Assignment:

1. Weekly demonstration of performance skills.
2. Preparation of songs and exercises as assigned.
3. Quiz(zes) on course material (1-3).
4. In-class performance of songs (melody and accompaniment).
5. Final performance exam.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.

Writing
0 - 0%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving
0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Performance skills

Skill Demonstrations
30 - 45%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quiz(zes)

Exams
10 - 30%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation

Other Category
30 - 45%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Contemporary Class Guitar. Schmid, Will. Hal Leonard. 2000 (classic)

Class Guitar Method, Volume 1. Bay, William. Mel Bay. 2016 (classic)

Instructor prepared materials.