

Sam Houston State University - School of Music
Course Syllabus

Course: ENS 118.02 Chamber Music – Guitar (1 credit hours)
Semester: Fall Semester, 2007
Classroom: Fine Arts Building, Room 205
Meeting Times: Tuesday, Thursday: 12:30-1:50 p.m.

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| Instructor: Dr. James M. Bankhead | Phone: (936) 294-3808 |
| Office: Room 225, Fine Arts Building | Email: bankhead@shsu.edu |
| Office Hours: By appointment only | |

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Rehearsing two to five guitar classical and jazz guitar arrangements with two performances per semester. The class will be divided into two sections: one for classical pieces, and the other for jazz chord-melody style arrangements.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.

PREREQUISITE: Rudimentary facility on the guitar and the ability to read music in first position.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course is intended to teach students how to perform in an ensemble, improve their sight-reading ability, and significantly improve their performance technique.

COURSE MATERIALS

Students are required to have their own guitar (wide neck classical or hollow body jazz styles preferred; solid body rock instruments can be used if necessary).

Students must have their own picks, finger picks, tuning devices and foot stools.

Required Text:

There is no required text. Music and other performance materials will be provided.

General Information: Students must bring their guitar, picks, stools and all other materials to class daily. Students will be required to take class notes.

ASSIGNMENTS: students are responsible for completing ALL assignments.

- No extension of time to complete required assignments will be given.
- Due dates/times are not negotiable.

Examinations/quizzes

Quizzes – there will be 4 quizzes during the semester

Tests

- **Mid-term** exam will be given on the third Thursday in October

- Written **final exam** will be given on Tuesday at 12 noon of exam week.

GRADING

Class attendance is heavily weighted; improvement in all skill areas will be graded.

Attitude – a cooperative, pleasant working relationship in class is appreciated and expected.

ATTENDANCE:

General Information on Attendance:

1. **Students will not be penalized for two or fewer absences**
2. A student's final grade will be lowered 10 points (one letter grade) for each absence past the 2nd absence
3. A student's final grade will be lowered 1 point for each tardy (Two tardies will be considered as one absence.)
4. A student is counted as being in attendance when:
 - a. The student is physically sitting in his/her assigned seat
 - b. The student has all materials necessary to perform the class activities as required
 - c. The student and the instrument are properly warmed-up (as assigned)
 - d. The student is attentive and ready to participate in class
5. Students are provided a daily sign-up sheet on which to record their attendance. It is the student's responsibility to insure that the sheet is signed.

Attendance and punctuality are required.

Should any variance occur, direct communication is *expected*. (**Document each/every communication by e-mail, please.**) Assignments **will not** be accepted past the date for which they were announced except in extreme cases. Special permission must be received from the professor for these cases. Additionally, one letter grade for each day (beginning immediately after the deadline date) must be subtracted from the earned grade for the assignment. Any variation from any policy will have to be, quite naturally, at the discretion of the instructor.

The University catalogue states that in a regular class "A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations **or OTHER ASSIGNED CLASSWORK have not been missed**; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences (2 class meetings for T-day classes)."

In any performance-based the final grade is affected subjective judgment by the instructor. Among the most influential factors on a student's grade in class are **ATTITUDE** and **ATTENDANCE**, **PREPARATION** and **PERFORMANCE**." As you surely would assume, these four factors override almost all others. **Cooperation** is expected.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The University policies regarding academic honesty will be followed and strictly enforced.

PROPER CLASSROOM DEMEANOR/RULES OF CONDUCT

" Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute all cellular phones and/or pagers before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class (except on specified occasions), using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy."

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Americans with Disabilities Act: SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused with a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examination are to be completed.

Visitors In The Classroom

The class will be host to visitors at numerous times during the semester. All courtesies should be extended to visitors at all times. When visitors are present, the class will proceed as usual. Any class member who would like to bring a visitor to class should obtain permission from the instructor prior to that time.

"Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom." (from University Policy)