

**MUSIC 650**  
**Section 3445**  
**Beginning Guitar**  
**Spring 2012**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Michael Kozubek

**TIME & PLACE:** Tuesday: 6:50 pm to 10:00 pm

**Room:** DH 302

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday: 6:20 pm to 6:50 pm room DH207

**CONTACT:** *email:* [mkozubek@apu.edu](mailto:mkozubek@apu.edu) or [kozubem@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:kozubem@lacitycollege.edu)

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**TEXTBOOK:** *A MODERN APPROACH TO CLASSICAL GUITAR* (book one, *second edition*) by Charles Duncan

**Optional text:** *FINGER STYLE POP CLASSICS* by Charles Duncan

**EQUIPMENT:** One acoustic guitar (preferably nylon strings), footstool, textbook, manuscript paper, pen and pencil.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Designed for students with no previous musical training. Topics covered include basic positioning of body and hands, music notation and reading, finger picking accompaniment. Student must provide own instrument.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

To learn the entire first position of the guitar fingerboard, including chromatics. The ability to read music, count basic rhythms and understand the notational system of written music will be the major bulk of the course. The class will learn the construction of major scales as well as simple chords in first position.

**EXIT SKILLS:**

- 1.) Apply basic music notation to the guitar
- 2.) Perform beginning level solos using the rest stroke
- 3.) Demonstrate proper posture and position for solo guitar playing
- 4.) Read chord notation and perform strumming and picking accompaniment patterns
- 5.) Perform beginning level chromatic melodies
- 6.) Solve fingering problems related to solo guitar performance
- 7.) Perform two-part solo guitar composition
- 8.) Evaluate technical aspects and aesthetic qualities of any guitar performance
- 9.) Play a C major scale one octave and arpeggio accompaniment pattern
- 10.) Write a critical review of a classical guitar recital

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course the student will perform chosen beginning guitar exercises with proper rhythm, tempo and technique.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Any student that has a verified disability who may need reasonable accommodations for this class are encouraged to notify the Office of Student Services in room CH 109, phone number (323) 953-4000 x 2270 as soon as possible. All information will remain confidential.

## **CLASS POLICIES:**

Attendance: Each student is allowed only **three absences** per semester. For every absence beyond the allotted three, the *final grade will be reduced by a full letter grade*. An excused absence is at the discretion of the instructor and will not be given without a minimum of 24 hour notice.

Add/Drop: It is the sole responsibility of the student to add or drop a class by officially doing this procedure through Admissions and Records by the posted dates in the catalog of classes. After the third meeting the instructor can no longer exclude a student from the roster. Simply not attending the class will result in a failing final grade if this procedure is not completed.

Food, drink & smoking: There are no circumstances in which a student will be allowed food, drinks or be allowed to smoke in the classroom. Only bottle water will be allowed in class and any medical condition that requires the consumption food must be consumed outside of the classroom. Smokers are no longer allowed to smoke in the “breezeway” between Clausen Hall and Franklin Hall as of the Spring 2007 semester. All smokers must exit the building and smoke outside of the building a minimum of 15 feet away from entry doors. Please be sure to depose of finished cigarettes in the proper ashtrays outside the buildings and not just throw them on the ground to clutter our campus.

Cell Phones, Pagers & Laptop Computers: ALL cell phones and pagers will be turned off at the beginning of class and not to be used during class time. If an emergency call is expected put the cell phone on the buzz mode and take the call outside the classroom. Please advise the instructor prior to such an emergency before class begins. Laptop computers may only be used to take notes or capture musical examples on the Logic program in class, but are not to be used to read or send emails during class time. If emails are being read or sent during class time the privilege of bringing your laptop to the class will be revoked.

Classroom Disruption Policy: This policy and its title is based upon the findings of the *Gonzales and Lopez* study on “student incivility” which identifies six categories of incivility and recommends an explicit policy in course syllabi. These are the six categories: disengaged, disinterested, disrespectful, disruptive, defiant, and disturbed behaviors. (See: Gonzales, V. and Lopez, E. “The Age of Incivility,” *AAHE Bulletin*, Vol. 53, No. 8, pp. 3-6). Behaviors that fall into these categories impede the teaching and learning processes for all and cannot be permitted. Classroom disruption may result in dismissal from the course. A list of specific district enforced policy violations can be found in the LACC catalogue of classes under POLICIES: Standards of Student Conduct on page 114-116.

Practice rooms: To use a practice room (lab) a student must be enrolled in a music class that has a corresponding lab requirement. The student must be in possession of a LACC Cub Card student ID. To use a practice room (DH 310) each student must check in with the music office (DH 312) by presenting their personal Cub Card.

**Class Participation:** Class procedure will require each student to perform to the best of their ability as a class member in materials found in the textbook in both melody and accompaniment. Failure to participate will affect the final grade for the semester.

**PRACTICE:** All students are required to practice at least an hour a day to insure the successful completion of course material. Forty minutes a day is suggested for the new material assigned in class. The remaining twenty minutes of the hour should be spent practicing previously assigned material as a review. The daily hour of practice can be divided into shorter segments if finger fatigue sets in. I encourage the playing of outside material for further growth, but not at the expense of the required assignments.

**Grading Assessment:**

The semester grade will be determined in the following manner:

Class participation will account for **15%** of the final grade

5 to 7 quiz grades will constitute **25%** of the final grade.

Critical written review of one classical guitar recital **10%** of the final grade

Midterm performance/written exam will constitute **25%** of the final grade.

Final performance/written exam will constitute **25%** of the final grade.

**Grading Criteria:**

**A** Student will score 90% or better on all written quizzes and examinations. Participation in class will be exemplary in that the student will play along in class performances without hesitation and in sound rhythmic ensemble. All performance aspects of midterm and final exams will be well executed in both written notation and chord accompaniment.

**B** Student will score 80% or better on all quizzes and examinations. Participation in class performances will be solid but not as accurate as an “A” student. Performances in midterm and final exams will be better than average but with minor flaws in fingering or rhythmic hesitation. Student is stronger in chord playing than in note reading.

**C** Student will score 70% or better on all quiz and written exams. Performance in class and on exams shows hesitation due to physical difficulties in technical execution of assigned pieces, a sign of lack of weekly practice. Note reading and chord playing are both done with hesitation or lack on rhythmic accuracy.

**D** Scores on written exams and quizzes will be less than 70% on an average. Student is unable to participation in class due to considerable lack of practice to the point of difficulty in keeping up with tempos set in class. Performances show lack of conceptual understanding of written music and its execution.

**F** Student has abundant absences, misses quizzes or exams without make ups, scores on written materials reflect lack of effort and understanding of musical concepts. Demonstrates an inability to play assignments due to neglect of weekly practice and general poor attitude toward materials covered in class.

**Grading scale:**

|    |         |    |        |
|----|---------|----|--------|
| A  | 94-100% | C  | 74-76% |
| A- | 90-93%  | C- | 70-73% |
| B+ | 87-89%  | D+ | 67-69% |
| B  | 84-86%  | D  | 64-66% |
| B- | 80-83%  | D- | 60-63% |
| C+ | 77-79%  | F  | 0-59   |

**Dates to Remember and the Final Examination:**

**SPRING 2012 - 2/6/12 thru 6/4/12**

Monday – Thursday Classes Begin Monday February 6

Friday Classes Begin Friday February 10

Saturday Classes Begin Saturday February 11

Final Exam Week Tuesday May 29 thru Wednesday June 6

**DAYS COLLEGE IS CLOSED**

Presidents Day Friday February 17 thru Monday February 20

Cesar Chavez Friday March 30

Spring Break Monday April 2 thru Monday April 9

Memorial Day Monday May 28

**Deadlines**

Last Day To:

ADD (Traditional) Classes Tuesday February 21

DROP With a Refund Tuesday February 21

DROP Without a Fee Tuesday February 21

DROP Classes from your Permanent Record Without a “W” Friday March 2 (via WEB) Sunday March 4

FILE for Credit/No Credit Grades Friday March 2

DROP Classes With a “W” Friday May 4 (via WEB) Sunday May 6

Final Exam Week Tuesday May 29 thru Monday June 6

Grades Due Monday June 11

**Final Examination Dates:**

**Tuesday class (3445) Tuesday, May 29, 2012**

**DH 302, from 7:30 pm. to 9:30 p.m.**