

GUITAR CLASS I & II  
MUS 208/209  
Fall, 2009

FRIDAYS 1:30-3:30  
Room 105, McCain Auditorium

Dr. Wayne E. Goins  
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**Course Overview and Syllabus**

Required Text: Dr. G's Hummin' & Strummin' Songbook

Required Instrument: An **ACOUSTIC** guitar in working condition, nylon or steel-string

Required CD: All the songs from the carepacket downloaded onto a CD

Other Materials: Wire music stand (to hold your song book); Access to Active E-Mail and Internet; extra sheet protectors for additional teacher handouts

**WHAT IT IS:**

This class is designed to teach beginners how to play easy folk/pop/rock songs, both in an individual and group setting.

It is designed to help develop your singing skills (EVERYONE can and WILL sing.)

**WHAT IT IS NOT:**

This class is not designed for the use of electric guitars.

It is not designed to teach you how to take hot lead guitar solos in blues or rock genres.

It is not designed to receive 'special requests' from students 'favorite song' list

It is not designed to teach you how to read music notation

It is not designed to use "TAB" (tablature)

**MAIN GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

The main goals are to develop a repertoire of songs that can be successfully performed either alone or front of your classmates, friends, family, or any larger group. The ultimate objective, however, is to not only be able to play solid acoustic guitar, but to also SING WHILE YOU PLAY.

I. Commitment—This class is truly for those who know little or nothing about playing the guitar (if you already know how to play guitar and are just looking for an easy 'A' this class is NOT for you--I will find you out and then remove you from class). You will do well in this class if you are able to:

- RENT/OWN YOUR OWN GUITAR
- Practice every day
- Memorize the lyrics to the song
- Overcome shyness or fear when performing in front of other people

II. Skills—You are expected to develop and exhibit behaviors and performance tasks in guitar class that directly reflect the learning experience.

- Chord skills—You should demonstrate left hand technique that reflect memorization and mastery of fingerings for effective performances
- Strumming Technique— You should demonstrate right hand technique that reflect memorization and mastery of rhythmic patterns for effective performances

- Teamwork—To better achieve your goal, it is always good to have a ‘partner with whom you can practice, share knowledge, and demonstrate your skills outside of class (lecture/performance, papers, videos, chapter readings, listening examples, etc.)
- Support—You should always demonstrate an awareness and respect for other students’ ability to develop at their own pace, and lend positive comments as we all try to **play and sing** the material.
- Leadership Development—Students can earn extra credit by demonstrating the ability to provide leadership as they assist others who may have difficulties developing skills during the course of the semester.

### **CLASS ACTIVITIES**

In short, the students in guitar class will spend the entire semester preparing for the “Big Show,” our final exam concert.

- Develop the proper left/right hand technique to play good clean chords
- Learn one or two songs per week
- Play and sing in front of the class every week.
- Memorize the chords and lyrics for “test days”
- Team up and play in “duo groups” with partner
- Give and receive feedback from students regarding classroom performances
- Take a comprehensive exam on related class material

### **TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28—FRIDAY DECEMBER 11

#### **AUGUST**

28 INTRODUCTION/BASIC CHORDS

#### **SEPTEMBER**

4 KNOCKIN’ ON HEAVEN’S DOOR/FREE FALLIN’  
 11 HEART OF GOLD  
 18 [Goins birthday] PLAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG!!!  
 25 DDU-UDU strum pattern--REDEMPTION SONG

#### **OCTOBER**

2 **performance test** //learn BLOWIN’ IN THE WIND  
 9 HEY JUDE/LET IT BE (NO CLASS)  
 16 MARAGARITAVILLE  
 23 BROWN EYED GIRL  
 30 A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS/YELLOW SUBMARINE

#### **NOVEMBER**

6 **performance test**//DESPERADO  
 13 IMAGINE/SITTIN ON THE DOCK OF THE BAY  
 20 HEY YA/COMFORTABLY NUMB  
 27 **(THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY)**

#### **DECEMBER**

4 THE JOKER/WHILE MY GUITAR GENTLY WEEPS  
 11 HOTEL CALIFORNIA/FIELDS OF GOLD  
 14-18—FINALS (signup sheets for Mon-Tue-Wed)

**Grading System: (absences=@ minus10pts)**

Textbook purchase by due date	25 PTS
Music stand purchase by Due Date	25 PTS
GROUP Interview Presentation/Paper	50 PTS
PERFORMANCE EXAMS(8X50)	400 PTS
PORTFOLIO	100 PTS
FINAL EXAM	200 PTS
PARTICIPATION	50 PTS
ATTENDANCE	150 PTS
<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>1000 PTS</b>

**Extra Credit: This will be solely based on attendance, class participation, and demonstrating excellent performance skills pertinent to relevant subject matter in class, All points will be administered solely by the teacher's discretion.**

Disability statement: If you have a disability that I need to know about, please apprise me of it at once, and I will strive to insure that steps are taken to facilitate your learning in this course.

Policy statement on plagiarism and cheating: Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper, or project; failure in the course; and/or expulsion from the university. For more information refer to the appropriate policy in the Student Life Handbook. I expect all of the work you do in this class to be your own.

Assignments/Projects:

**I. WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS:** You are expected to practice the material that correlate to the current class activities, including textbook, class notes, CD LISTENING, handouts and other assigned materials.

Attendance: This is class that meets only once a week. Missing one session is equivalent to missing a full week of class. Your presence and participation is essential to your success in this class.

**N.B.—I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus and course overview as necessary.**

**Important Note: Since the nature of this class involves physical activity, the initial stages of instruction may require physical contact on fingers, hands, wrists, forearms, or elbows. Also, some students may be asked to cut fingernails on left and/or right hand.**