**MUS 2109 Advanced Contemporary Guitar**

***Description:***

Developing form MUS 1210, this course emphasizes a higher-level repertoire through developing skill in reading guitar music, and the performance/critique of that music. The course includes repertoire from several different idioms: folk, blues, ragtime, reggae, and jazz. The course explores chord structure and progression in depth.

***Objectives:***

1. To further improve, develop, and advance the students’ instrumental techniques
2. To further the students’ understanding of music theory applied to the guitar
3. To further develop the students’ performing, arranging, and improvising skills
4. To offer skills in playing the guitar in different idioms including: blues, ragtime, reggae, soul, and jazz.

*Course Outline*

Topic 1: Bluegrass and Country Style Arranging

Topic 2: Jazz Progression, Scales and Rhythm Charts

* Description and Recognition of Rhythms
* Introduction of 3/2 Bar Jazz Chord Progression, Scales, and Basic Rhythm Charts

Topic 3: Introduction of Jazz Melody

Topic 4: Contemporary Style Concepts of Arranging

Topic 5: Rock Solo and Improvisation

Topic 6: Harmony and Chord Extension

* Rock and Blues: Soloing and Improvisation

Topic 7: Arpeggio Style Arranging

Topic 8: Ear Training

Topic 9: Classical Guitar Notation and Explanation of Symbols

Topic 10: Playing Reggae

Topic 11: Playing Blues

Topic 12: Playing ragtime

*Learning Outcomes*

1. Advanced level of playing the guitar
2. Demonstration of the ability to apply accompaniment, soloing, arranging, and improvising skills to chosen musical pursuit
3. Ability to freely and easily improvise on any tune

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Homework, lecture, demonstration, individual instruction, tutorial, and handouts

*Modes of Assessment*

Course work

* Attendance and participation in class: 5%
* Weekly performance assessment: 20%
* Sight Singing: 5%
* Aural assignment: 5%
* Departmental Performances: 5%

Final examinations

* Practical:
  + Sight singing: 5%
  + Aural: 5%
  + Performance: 20%
* Written: 30%

*Selected Readings*

Flores, Richard. 1999. *60 Classical Guitar Solos: Beginning to Intermediate.*Milwuakee***:*** Hal Leonard Publishing.

Leavitt, William G. 2000. *A Modern Method For Guitar.* Volume I. Berklee Press.

Mel, Bay. 1972. *Guitar Class Method.* Boston: Mel Bay Publishing.

Schmid, Will and Greg Koch. 2000. *The Hal Leonard Guitar Method Book One****.*** 2nd Ed.Milwuakee:Hal Leonard Publishing.