San José State University
School of Music and Dance
Music 28, Guitar Fundamentals, Section 1, Fall, 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructors: Rick Vandivier
Office Location: Room 186
Telephone: (650) 714-3323
Email: rick@rickvandivier.com
Office Hours: Fridays 2:30-3:30 PM Room 186; Other times by appointment
Class Days/Time: Fridays 12:30 PM – 2:20 PM
Classroom: Music Building, Room 150
Prerequisites: None
GE/SJSU Studies Category: Music
Course Fees: Guitars are available to rent from the Music Department for the semester for a $30 music use fee.

Faculty Web Page: www.RickVandivier.com

Course Description: This course introduces the enjoyment of playing the guitar for self-expression, jamming with others, and for teaching guitar in school. Participants will receive both the information and hands-on experience useful to play the guitar in a variety of styles.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Read Music
2. Tune the guitar
3. Hold the guitar in an ergonomic position
4. Accompany singing
5. Improvise and jam
6. Execute strumming patterns and rhythms
7. Play contemporary music and styles
8. Play classical and traditional pieces
9. Play blues
10. Perform fundamental chord forms; open position and bar chords
11. Play and notate pentatonic scales
12. Play and notate major scales
13. Perform with a pick
14. Use Finger style technique
15. Select an instrument for purchase
16. Take care of the guitar
17. Distinguish between types of guitars
18. Identify the parts of the guitar
19. Apply good technique for tone production

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook
Alfred’s Basic Guitar Method Level 1
Morty Manus and Ron Manus
Third Edition
Alfred Publishing Company
Book: ISBN 0739047930

Other Readings
Class handouts

Other equipment / material requirements
A guitar of student level quality or above is required for this course. Appropriate quality guitars can be rented for the semester at room 114 of the music building by obtaining a Music Use Fee card for $30.00

Course Requirements and Assignments
SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Other course requirements:

Active class participation
Playing/practice time of forty-five minutes per day, six days per week to develop skills
The average weekly assignment entails memorizing 3-6 new chords, preparing two pieces of music, and 4 pages in the course method/text book.
Quizzes, midterm, and final exam
The Final is Monday, December 14th, 12:15 -2:30 PM

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”
Grading Policy

Each participant’s grade is the summation of the following:

50% Weekly in-class demonstration of progress, participation, quizzes and assignments. An important component of weekly participation is the proficient and audible playing with other students.

25% Midterm test October 2nd in class: Test includes a written portion and a playing portion. If a student misses the midterm it can be taken on October 9th with an automatic reduction of 10% percent of their test score.

25% Final test Monday, December 14th, 12:15 - 2:30 PM: Test includes a written portion and a playing portion.

Note: “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.

Classroom Protocol
a. SJSU guitars are to be handled and maintained with the utmost care.

b. To maximize class potential, each student shall take special care to be considerate of all participants, especially regarding sound in the classroom.

c. During instruction periods of the class, students must refrain from talking to each other, and playing their instruments. Students that forget will receive two warnings. If a third incident occurs, the student will be asked to leave the class for that day.

d. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain for the entire period. The classroom door will be closed at 12:35 at which time no additional students will be admitted.

e. As per University policy F69-24, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class.”

f. Water may be brought to class, but no other beverages or food is permitted in class.

g. Quizzes and assignments missed due to an excused absence may be made up at a time designated by the instructor.

h. Use of cell phones and/or laptops for tuning apps and recording class material is welcome, but use of cell phones for any other purpose, such as messaging, photos, or email is allowed only outside of class time. Students that violate this policy will be required to turn their phones off.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90-5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing
concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

**Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

**Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.
Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.
Music 28, Guitar Fundamentals, Fall 2015, Fridays 12:30-2:20

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice via class announcement or email.

Course Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/21/15</td>
<td>Holding the guitar, hand positions, guitar terminology, one finger chords, Pages 1-10 in Alfred’s Guitar method,</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/28/15</td>
<td>2 finger chords, 3 finger chords, strumming patterns, book pages 11-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9/4/15</td>
<td>Classic rock songs, more 3 finger chords, E minor pentatonic on the 2nd string, Book pages 15-19, group jamming</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/11/15</td>
<td>Blues in A, 4 finger chords, E minor pentatonic on the 3rd string, Book pages 19-22, group jam, Songs i.e. Stay w/Me, Knocking’ on Heaven’s Door</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/18/15</td>
<td>A minor pentatonic on 1st string, more 4 finger chords, Book pages 23-26, group jam, song i.e. Black horse and the Cherry Tree</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/25/15</td>
<td>Review for midterm, mock midterm, Song i.e. Nothing to Lose, Book pages 27-31, A minor pentatonic on 2nd string</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10/2/15</td>
<td>Midterm, Intro to bar chords, song i.e. You and Me, Book pages 32-35</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>10/9/15</td>
<td>Bar chords with root on the 6th String, Song i.e. Dock of the Bay, Book pages 36-39, A minor pentatonic in 5th position</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10/16/15</td>
<td>Song, i.e., Bad Fish, jamming on blues, bar chord practice, Book pages 40-43</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/23/15</td>
<td>Bar chords with root on the 5th String, E minor pentatonic in 7th position, Book pages 44-47 song i.e. Hey There Delilah</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10/30/15</td>
<td>I-IV-V, and I-VI-II-V progressions with bar chords, Book pages 48-50</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/6/15</td>
<td>Songs i.e. Tighten Up (Black Keys), Summertime (Gershwin), Book pages 51-53, Major scale on single strings</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/13/15</td>
<td>Song i.e. Best Day of My Life, individual lessons and check ins., Book pages 54-56</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/20/15</td>
<td>Song i.e. All of You (John Legend),</td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Book pages 57-59, transcribing techniques</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>11/27/15</td>
<td>No School- Thanksgiving break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>12/4/15</td>
<td>Semester review, song requests</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Book pages 60 -62</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Room 150</td>
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<td>12:15 – 2:30</td>
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