

Seminar Instrumental Pedagogy MUS 5320

Spring, 2025

Professor: Nicolas Hurt, MM

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Class Meetings: Wednesday 5PM, Friday 1PM, FAB 202

Office Hours: MWF 1:00PM - 2:00PM, FAB 202 or by appointment

Course Description

This graduate course develops student understanding of Instrumental Pedagogy through individual guitar lessons, readings, and supervised teaching.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

After completing this course students should be able to:

- 1) use basic terminology to describe musical elements including pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, and form. (Knowledge)
- 2) demonstrate a broad knowledge of musical time periods by including examples of major works and composers with a focus on guitar works and composers. (Skills)
- 3) implement critical thinking skills in order to identify qualities and discrepancies in one's own teaching. (Skills)
- 4) demonstrate ability to think critically and write coherently about writings on music pedagogy. (Skills)
- 5) practice technique and repertoire leading to the final recital. (Skills)

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs

- Student teaching reports - students will view videos of their own teaching along with the professor and with the guidance of the reading this semester create an analysis of the quality of teaching. Changes throughout the semester must be well documented. (1,2,3)
- Written summary of material within semester reading (Intelligent Music Teaching) and its application into student's teaching style. (1,2,3,4)
- Pre-recital performance or video performance (5)

Marketable Skills:

Ability to teach quality music lessons with a clear and precise methodology.

Ability to perform in various environments with confidence in technique and repertoire.

Ability to analyze and discuss important periods, figures, and works within the classical guitar canon.

Required Materials

- Blackboard access and internet access (these services provided on campus)
- Textbook
- Spotify account (free)

- All work should be typed, either using a word processing program, or better still, a cloud based web application such as Blackboard, Google Docs, Office 365, etc.

Textbook

From the Stage to the Studio - Laurie Scott, Cornelia Watkins

Class Attendance and Participation

Regular class attendance is important to the attainment of the educational objectives of the University. Therefore, students should attend all classes. Attendance includes being punctual for class and ready to engage with the professor and the day's material. The instructor's policy on class attendance will be explained at the beginning of the semester or term. In accordance with the instructor's policy, the instructor has the right to penalize students who are out of compliance with the class attendance policy.

Instructor Policy

Four (4) unexcused absences equals the loss of a letter grade. If you made an A but have four (4) unexcused absences, you will receive a B for the course - if you made an A but have twelve (12) unexcused absences you will receive a D for the Course. Four classes in which the student is late equals one unexcused absence. If you are late to class four (4) times, you will receive an unexcused absence for the fourth day entering late.

Authorized/Excused Absences Statement

An absence because of participation in an official University activity is considered to be an authorized/excused absence. While every effort will be made by departments to minimize missed class time of students by careful scheduling of authorized University activities, when a student has to miss a class due to an authorized University activity, it will be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of the class in advance. The department responsible for the authorized University activity will also notify instructors through the Student Life Office by providing an excused absence list to the office. Instructors will give students participating in an authorized University activity the opportunity to make up class work, including tests, within a reasonable time and at the convenience of the instructor. Should an instructor have an attendance policy that allows for the dropping of a student after a certain number of absences, authorized/excused absences will not be counted towards that number of absences. Any student dropped for excessive absences will receive either an "F" or a "FX" depending upon the faculty member's discretion

Grading Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

1. Attendance / Participation – 30%
2. Written Assignments – 25%
3. Student video Assignments – 20%
4. End of Semester Performance – 25%

Grading Scale

A=90-100 B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69 F=below 60

The instructor will provide detailed information and due dates for assignments, concert reports, and the final video presentation on a separate handout.

Professional Communication Policy

- All communication with me should be done through email, Blackboard or Office hours.
- You are expected to check your email and Blackboard on a regular basis.

SRSU Library Services

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LobolD and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

SRSU Disability Services

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mschwartze@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SUI Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.