

Sul Ross State University

MUS 1111, 1211, 3111& 3211-014:

Individual Applied Instruction

Guitar

Marina Azar

FAB 200 A Spring 2026

Phone: 832-994 8485

Email: mxaa17iq@sulross.edu

Course Overview

Applied guitar lessons in the Department of Music are designed to cultivate a deeper understanding of and dedication to the performance, study, and creation of music.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be expected to demonstrate multiple learning outcomes, including, but not limited to:

- awareness of general musical concepts (e.g., intonation, tone quality, phrasing, and expression, etc.);
- knowledge of general and nuanced concepts and techniques specific to the instrument and performance;
- consistent and measurable progress in lessons.

Required Material

Each student will progress through literature assigned by their instructor and appropriate to their goals and current level of performance. Repertoire and etudes will be specific to each student and ensemble. Students are responsible for obtaining required music, either through purchase or download.

MUSIC STANDARDS:

For those students who study guitar and are pursuing a teaching certification program, this course addresses the following Music Standards (as issued by the SBEC):

Standard I- The teacher sings and plays a musical instrument.

Standard II- The music teacher has a comprehensive knowledge of music notation.

Course Description: This course offers instruction in a variety of music styles from simple beginners strumming to jazz, blues, rock and classical. Lesson times are arranged by the student with the instructor's consent during registration or by the deadline for course drop/add.

There are two options available for the length of each lesson:

MUS 1111 is 30 minutes of lessons per week.

MUS 1211 is 1 hour of lessons per week.

instructor's approval. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to arrange a lesson.

Music majors and minors who have guitar as their main instrument should enroll in MUS 1211. It is also open to those who can change chords and/or play melodies quickly, confidently and in rhythm. The university has a limited number of guitars available for rent. Ask the instructor for details.

Student Learning Outcomes for Music Majors:

SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.

SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.

SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

Student Learning Objectives:

The student will learn tuning methods, string selection and replacement, and how to evaluate the condition and playability of a guitar. The student will learn proper posture and holding of the guitar.

The student will learn positioning and use of the left and right arms, hands and fingers appropriate to the different styles and techniques employed on the guitar.

The student will gain familiarization with notation for the guitar: **staff notation**

Expectations

Regular and consistent practice habits are crucial to making progress in applied lessons. You will be expected to devote ample time to the development of your musicianship, and to the realization of performance goals as discussed with your instructor. You will be expected to faithfully attend your lessons at their scheduled time.

Music majors and minors choosing guitar as their instrumental concentration will learn:

Staff reading skills

Scales and Arpeggios

Repertoire (Different Music Periods)

Analysis (form, melody, phrasing, dynamics, motives, etc.)

Memorization

Pitch sense- Time sense

Freshman Level

Assigned Major Scales 1- 2 octave, various rhythmic figures

2 appropriate solos per semester

Appropriate etude studies

Sophomore Level

Freshman Level plus:

Assigned Major scales 1-2 octave, various rhythmic figures

Assigned Minor Scales (natural and melodic)

2 appropriate solos per semester

Appropriate etude studies

Junior Level

Sophomore Level plus:

Major and minor Scales, 2 appropriate solos per semester

Appropriate etude studies

Senior Level

Recital

MUSIC MAJORS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL STUDENT CONCERTS, VOICE RECITALS, FACULTY RECITALS, MONTHLY STUDIO CLASSES AND THE ARTIST SERIES CONCERTS. MUSIC MAJORS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND AND PERFORM ON THE STUDENT RECITALS AND WILL NOT BE EXCUSED FROM IT EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF DIRE EMERGENCY. THE STUDENT RECITAL IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN THE FINAL GRADE FOR MUSIC MAJORS.

Dress and Etiquette: Students who perform in recitals, juries or concerts are required to dress in nice clothes and to behave in a way that is appropriate to concert-hall etiquette. The music faculty will inform students regarding proper dress and etiquette.

Attendance:

Since the individual instruction classes meet only once per week, the policy adopted for attendance must be different than the one stated in the university catalog. Beginning with 3 unexcused absences the final grade is lowered one letter grade and is lowered another letter grade for each absence after that. This means that with 6 unexcused absences the student will be dropped from the class with an automatic "F". Excused absences include university sponsored activities in which the student participates. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the reasons for absences. Students can make up for missed lessons.

Grading:

Your instructor will provide you with a clear grading plan at the outset of the semester. Your grade will be determined by a combination of several factors, including but not limited to: attendance;

completion of the previous week's repertoire goals;

technical and artistic improvement;

positive attitude and willingness to try new approaches to making music;

attentiveness during lessons.

The previous guidelines apply to all ensembles.

1. Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.
3. * Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.
4. * Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting.
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

*Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with **

Statement of Inclusivity and Respect

One of the strengths of this campus is that our community represents a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. All members are expected to contribute to an inclusive and respectful class environment by treating others with fairness, honesty, integrity, and respect. Civil discourse, reasoned thought, sustained and constructive engagement, and a collaborative spirit is required of all students in this course.

Alpine Disability statement:

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the 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, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.