

# MUS 38A: GUITAR ENSEMBLE I

## Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
<b>Units:</b>	2
<b>Hours:</b>	2 lecture, 1 laboratory per week (36 total per quarter)
<b>Advisory:</b>	MUS 14C or ability to read notation.
<b>Degree &amp; Credit Status:</b>	Degree-Applicable Credit Course
<b>Foothill GE:</b>	Non-GE
<b>Transferable:</b>	CSU/UC
<b>Grade Type:</b>	Letter Grade (Request for Pass/No Pass)
<b>Repeatability:</b>	Not Repeatable

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Evaluate student guitar performance and receive personal performance criticism from others.
- Evaluate, develop and employ good practice habits.
- Perform guitar repertoire musically, rhythmically and with accurate intonation.

## Description

The study, rehearsal, and public performance of guitar repertoire (both guitar-only ensembles and guitars with other instruments), with emphasis on the development of the skills needed to perform within an ensemble. Students will learn to perform musically, rhythmically and with accurate intonation. Repertoire is contingent upon instrument availability and will include simple duets, trios, quartets from the Renaissance through Contemporary. Students must know how to read notation and possess a basic mastery of the instrument. Students learn to critique both their own and others' performances. Instructor will coach throughout.

## Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Play with accuracy of pitch and rhythm within a guitar ensemble.
- Play with the ability to switch easily between melodic and accompaniment parts.
- Play with a variety of tone colors to meet the artistic style of the repertoire.
- Play using dynamics and expressive markings in the musical notation.
- Sight read melodic and accompaniment parts.
- Play with attention to steady pulse and rhythmic unity of ensemble.

## Course Content

- Guitar Technique (lab)
  - Posture/position
  - Dynamics
    - Free stroke
    - Rest stroke
    - Nail care
  - Musical Skills (lec and lab)
    - Notation
    - Expressive markings

- Rhythmic accuracy
- Chordal harmonies
- Dynamics
- Performance (lec and lab)
  - Interpretation
  - Presentation
    - Aural
    - Visual
  - Communication
  - Stage etiquette
- Practice (lec)
  - Daily
  - Self-evaluation
- Repertoire (lec and lab)
  - Variety of historical periods
    - Medieval
    - Renaissance
    - Baroque
    - Romantic
    - Contemporary

## Lab Content

- Guitar Technique
  - Posture/position
  - Dynamics
    - Free stroke
    - Rest stroke
    - Nail care
- Musical Skills
  - Notation
  - Expressive markings
  - Rhythmic accuracy
  - Chordal harmonies
  - Dynamics
- Performance
  - Interpretation
  - Presentation
    - Aural
    - Visual
  - Communication
  - Stage etiquette
- Repertoire
  - Variety of historical periods
    - Medieval
    - Renaissance
    - Baroque
    - Romantic
    - Contemporary

## Special Facilities and/or Equipment

Music stands.

## Method(s) of Evaluation

- Exams/Tests: Guitar rehearsal, performance
- Group Projects: Sectional rehearsal
- Class Work: Reading notation, playing, articulation
- Lab Activities: Rehearsal
- Class Performance: Individual and group assessment
- Final Public Performance: Campus performance: PAC

G. Substantial writing requirements are not appropriate for this course. Alternately, students are assessed through demonstrations of problem-solving ability using music symbols and language, guitar performance and sightreading

## Method(s) of Instruction

- A. Critique: Individual and group
- B. Lab: Practice, rehearsal
- C. Lecture: Historical style and technique
- D. Observation and Demonstration: Instructor and student demonstration and observation

## Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

Pachelbel, Johann. Canon in D. arr. Salz, Simon. Van Nuys: Alfred Music Publishing, 2010.

Noad, Frederick. Classical Guitar Treasury: Duets and Ensembles. Music Sales America, 1999.

Although these texts are older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, they remain seminal texts in this area of study.

## Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

- A. Practice individual parts, including tone, dynamics, tempo, rhythm, and articulation.
- B. Rehearsals: Group rehearsals, including all of the above plus group presentation of musicality.

## Discipline(s)

Music, Commercial Music