

COURSE SYLLABUS
MUSI 1303.03 & CRN 21312
FUNDAMENTALS OF GUITAR – Music Therapy Section
 3 Credit Hours
 Spring 2018

Instructor	Sarah Lynn Rossi, MT-BC slr020@shsu.edu 936-294-3972 Music Therapy Clinic: AB1 201C
Class Meeting	9:00-9:50 AM MWF Music Building: Room 201
Office Hours	Regular Office Hours are to be determined Times outside of regular office hours can be schedule upon request.
Course Description	This course is an introduction to playing the guitar functionally. The focus of this class is designed to prepare each student for the use of clinical music therapy applications involving the guitar. There will be an emphasis on using musical skills on guitar to lead group singing as well as performance. Materials will be learned through lectures, group discussion/projects, and significant hands on experience.
Course Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To demonstrate the ability to play guitar comfortably • To demonstrate the ability to play different styles of music on the guitar • To demonstrate the ability to play and perform guitar while singing in front of others • To demonstrate a basic technical understanding of the guitar • To arrange a piece of music for guitar ensemble
AMTA Professional Competencies	<p>While many addition American Music Therapy Association Professional Competencies may be developed and demonstrated during this course, the following will be specifically addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5 Transpose simple compositions • 2.1 Compose songs with simple accompaniment • 5.1 Accompany self and ensemble proficiently • 5.2 Employ simple strumming and finger picking techniques • 5.3 Tune guitar using standard and other tunings • 5.4 Perform a basic repertoire of traditional, folk, and popular songs with or without printed music • 5.5 Harmonize and transpose simple compositions in several keys

Textbook:	<i>Guitar Skills for Music Therapists and Music Educators</i> by Peter Meyer, Jessica De Villers, and Erin Ebnet (Barcelona Publishers, 2010) It is the student's responsibility to obtain course materials by the end of the 2 nd week of class. Exceptions regarding due dates will NOT be granted to students who fail to purchase textbooks on time.	
Evaluation:	Title	Task
	Guitar Proficiency Tests	Students will master basic chords from the keys of G, D, C, A, and E as well as a variety of strum patterns
	Songbook	Students will collect and organize music that is learned in class and independently.
	Duet/Trio Project	Students will arrange and perform in a guitar ensemble
	Song Checks	Each student will prepare 2 songs with the guitar accompaniment of assigned guitar chords and will teach the songs to the class.
	Final Performance	Each student will perform (sing & play) selected piece of music (from the song book) with the guitar accompaniment.
Grading:		
<div> Guitar Proficiency tests (10 pts X 4)40 Song Checks (10 pts X 2)20 Duet/Trio Project10 Songbook12 Final Performance18 <hr/> Total:100 </div>		
Grading Scale: A = 90 ~ 100 B = 80 ~ 89 C = 70 ~ 79 D = 60 ~ 69 F = Below 59 *In order to meet American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) standards, music therapy students are expected to obtain a grade of C or better in all core music therapy courses, including this one. *Students who cannot complete course requirements will receive a grade of F. Exceptions may be granted and incomplete (X) grades given with proper documentation in the case of severe health emergencies or death in the immediate family. Grades will be posted using the university system by the date specified in the university class schedule. Students may review or discuss grades with the instructor throughout the semester.		

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is expected of all students. Assignments or performances due during one's absence should be discussed the instructor as early as possible to schedule an acceptable solution. Follow professional job procedures.

All absences must be documented prior to class (when feasible) by means of a phone call or email to the instructor. Leave a message on voicemail, if necessary. Please understand that this documentation does not by any means guarantee an excused absence, but without such notification, a written doctor's notice, or a funeral notice, all absences will be considered unexcused. Appointments for miss exams must be made with the instructor within one week following administration of the scheduled exam. Consideration for make-up assignments will be given on the basis of documentation for an excused absence.

Excessive absences, tardiness, or leaving early will adversely affect the student's grade.

Tardiness will be documented as an absence; a student may request exception to this at the end of the class period for which he or she was tardy. Exception will be at the professor's discretion. Students will be allowed 1 class absence without penalty. Any unexcused absence over 2 classes will result in final grade reductions of 2 percent point per absence.

Due Dates: Timely documentation is a clear indication of academic and professional maturity; therefore, students must comply with the given due dates. Due dates for all assignments are given on the course calendar. For any assignment submitted beyond the assigned due date, only one-half of the possible points may be earned.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Dates: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment form which the student is excused from within a reasonable time after the absence. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to the instructor a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester. The instructor will notify the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Student with Disabilities: SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. In order to receive such accommodations, students with disabilities must register at the Lee Drain North Annex (next to the Farrington Building) and request help from the instructor. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. They also be contacted at 936-294-3512.

Confidentiality: Throughout this course, students may be exposed to sensitive and personal information regarding client's symptoms and treatments, as well as view student performance. Please respect the dignity of these individuals by not discussing observations outside of the classroom or clinic setting.

Writing Assistance: The Sam Houston Writing Center, located in Wilson 114, is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate, organize, or revise a draft of any assignment in any subject. You can drop by to work with a tutor or call (936) 294-3680 to schedule an appointment.

Academic Honesty: The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuit in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any students found to be guilty or dishonest in any phase of academic work will be subjected to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in another form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class (which will count as an absence). Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Tentative Academic Calendar & Course Schedule

Date	Topic & Assignments	Reading
Wed - January 17 th	Class Canceled Due to Weather	
Fri - January 19 th	Course Overview & Requirements	Syllabus
Mon - January 22 nd	String Letter Name & Tuning Your Guitar	
Wed - January 24 th	Chording & How to Read Tablature	Intro & Ch. 1
Fri - January 26 th	Chords: Key of G	
Mon - January 29 th	Chords: D, D7 & Down-Up Strum Pattern	
	*** <i>Need to have 3 songs in you Songbook</i>	
Wed – January 31 st	<u>Guitar Proficiency Exam I</u>	
Fri – February 2 nd	Chords: Key of D	
Mon – February 5 th	Chords: Key of C	
	*** <i>Need to have 6 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Wed – February 7 th	Chords: Key of A	
Fri – February 9 th	Chords: key of E	
Mon – February 12 th	Various Strum Patterns/ Review	
	*** <i>Need to have 9 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Wed – February 14 th	<u>Guitar Proficiency Exam II</u>	
Fri – February 16 th	<u>Cont. Guitar Proficiency Exam II</u>	
Mon – February 19 th	Song Check I	
Wed – February 21 st	Song Check 1	
Fri – February 23 rd	Song Check 1	
Mon – February 26 th	Standard Chord Progression	
Wed – February 28 th	“ I know C, A, G, E, and D... Now What?” & Example Demonstration	Ch. 2
Fri – March 2 nd	12 Bar Blues	
Mon – March 5 th	Blues Song Writing	Ch. 7
	*** <i>Need to have 15 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Wed – March 7 th	<u>Guitar Proficiency Exam III</u>	
Fri – March 9 th	<u>Cont. Guitar Proficiency Exam III</u>	
March 12 th – 16 th	<i>NO CLASS: Spring Break</i>	
Mon – March 19 th	Finger Picking & PIMAS	
Wed – March 21 st	Arpeggio Picking	
Fri – March 23 rd	Alternate Picking and Alternate Bass Picking	
	*** <i>Need to have 18 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Mon – March 26 th	Arpeggio-Triplet Picking	Ch. 4
Wed – March 28 th	Review of Chords & Duet/Trio Assigned	Ch. 5
Fri – March 30 th	<i>NO CLASS: Good Friday</i>	
Mon – April 2 nd	Song Check II	
Wed – April 4 th	Song Check II	
Fri – April 6 th	Song Check II	
Mon – April 9 th	Sight Reading & Determining the Strum Pattern	

Wed – April 11 th	Modulation & Capo	
	<i>***Need to have 25 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Fri – April 13 th	<u>Guitar Proficiency Exam IV</u>	
Mon – April 16 th	<u>Cont. Guitar Proficiency Exam IV</u>	
Wed – April 18 th	Adaption for MT	Ch. 8
Fri – April 20 th	Workday	
	<i>*** Need to have 30 songs in your Songbook</i>	
Mon – April 23 rd	Duet/ Trio Project	
Wed – April 25 th	Duet/ Trio Project	
Fri – April 27 th	Duet/ Trio Project	
Mon – April 30 th	Final Performance	
Wed – May 2 nd	Final Performance	
Fri – May 4 th (Last day of class)	Final Performance	

Song Book & Song Check Guidelines:

Song Book: Part of the course is to learn to play the guitar and to begin to develop a repertoire of guitar music that you are able to play. It is expected that you maintain your collection of repertoire throughout this course. It is required that you use dividers to organize your collection. Keep an ongoing list of songs that are in your songbook. In your Final Performance, your instructor will randomly choose 2-3 songs from your songbook for you to sing and play. So be sure to complete your songbook before the Final Performance of the course.

Song Checks: Each Song Check day, you are required to bring your songbook. A song will be chosen from your ongoing list of songs for you to perform and teach for the class. On your assigned Song Check day, you will be responsible for making enough copies of the song for the entire class. Each Song Check day every student will collect the presented/performed songs and organize them into their songbook. As the semester continues, Song Check may involve playing more than one song. Music therapy students can expect to have your Song Check to include therapeutic objectives.

****As the semester progresses, it is expected that the difficulty of songs will increase. A songbook with 30 songs using only 2 chords is NOT acceptable. Likewise, a songbook with 30 songs in only one genre/category is NOT acceptable. Please consider this project as starting your collection of music for clients. It is required by the end of the semester to have a varied repertoire across multiple genres/populations.**

Suggested Categories:

- Folk
- Country
- Children's
- Religious
- Holidays
- Oldies
- Jazz
- Show tunes
- 1950s
- 1960s
- 1970s
- 1980s
- 1990s
- 2000s
- 2010s