



MUEN-2139-170C3
Guitar Ensemble (Guitar Orchestra)
Spring 2025
Wednesday 3:30-6:20 F-117

Instructor Information: John Kiefer, jkiefer@com.edu, 409-933-8545

Student hours and location: F-119 office – Student (office) hours on door

Required Textbook/Materials: Music will be distributed at first meeting
Guitar-with new strings
An extra set of strings – see me for info on size and type
Metronome
Electronic Tuner – optional but recommended
Several picks and a reliable pencil

Course Description: Guitar ensemble can range from a trio of guitars to a full guitar orchestra. Students should have their own guitar. The group provides a unique ensemble experience. The literature is drawn from classical transcriptions to modern compositions written specifically for this group. The ensemble has also performed music drawn from instrumental rock and heavy metal stylings. Concerts will be scheduled per semester including our popular Monster Musik concert in October.

Course requirements: weekly rehearsals and at least one concert

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Rehearsal attendance | 50% |
| Concert attendance | 50% |

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor for possible make-up lessons.

Attendance Policy: Students at College of the Mainland are expected to attend every session of all classes for which they are registered. Any absence or late arrival potentially lowers your grade.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

| Student Learner Outcome | Maps to Core Objective | Assessed via this Assignment |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.Learn to perform correct rhythms. | Critical Thinking Skills | Performance |
| 2.Perform pitches with good intonation | Critical Thinking Skills | Performance |
| 3. Learn to perform with dynamic control. | Communication Skills | Performance |
| 4 Students will increase their knowledge of guitar literature | Social Responsibility | Performance |
| 5.Gain the ability to perform with other musicians in concert | Teamwork | Performance |

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr Kristina Jantz, Fine Arts Department Chair at kjantz@com.edu or 409-933-8255

Course outline:

Weekly rehearsals.

SPRING CONCERTO April 23rd 7:00 PM in F-117

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook [https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student Handbook 2024-2025 v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor’s professional judgment of the quality of the student’s work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered

through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.