

Music 1710 (V) – Guitar Instruction Major Study (Independent Study for Music Majors)

Instructor: Mr. Luke Brouillette

1. Course Description:

Student and instructor meet privately once a week for a 50-60 minute lesson.

The objective of 1710 Major Study for Guitar is to prepare the student with a good foundation of playing techniques and music reading skills. These objectives should be accomplished by four semesters of study:

- a. Overview of position reading and playing, covering the full range of the instrument
- b. Understanding and use of the standard jazz/popular chord forms
- c. Understanding and standard use of major scales, “jazz minor” scales, and major and minor pentatonic scales for improvising.
- d. Preparing and performing chord/melody and classical pieces for pick-style guitar.

2. Text:

Lesson materials draw mainly on “Modern Method for Guitar” by Bill Leavitt, Volumes One and Two, but also include “Melodic Rhythms for Guitar” (Leavitt) and “Classical Studies for Pick Style Guitar” (Leavitt) for repertoire and technique.

We also draw on "Guitar Foundations" by the instructor (Luke Brouillette), which integrates with “Modern Method” and introduces practical concepts in approaches to understanding guitar

3. Grading/Testing:

The student is given weekly assignments from the above texts and should complete one Volume of “Modern Method for Guitar” per school year as well as prepare an assigned chord/melody piece, pick style classical study, and appropriate scales and chords for a graded jury performance at the end of each semester. Attendance is also taken into consideration toward the grade.

At the end of four semesters, or the completion of “Modern Method for Guitar Volume Two”, the student should be ready to pass a barrier jury.