

# Guitar Ensemble - MUN 3487

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## Course Description

The Guitar Ensemble course, MUN 3483, consist of the practice of music for guitar in groups that can go from duets, trios, and quartets, to larger ensembles of guitars. The groups will meet twice a week. The assigned time is Mondays and Wednesdays from 13:30 to 14:20 in room M114. Monday nights will also be reserved for additional rehearsals from 19:00 to 22:00.

Students will actively participate in the rehearsal, coaching, and performance of small chamber music ensembles, generally done without a conductor. To develop musical leadership and chamber music skills, each ensemble will be allowed to work independently on a regular basis. The work will be supervised and regular coaching will guide the work and development of the ensemble.

The repertoire consists mainly of original works written for any combination in the number of guitars included. These groups may go from a duet to a large guitar ensemble. The works to be studied will be taken from different historical periods such as nineteenth-century pieces by Sor, Carulli, Giuliani, Coste, or, works by modern composers such as Brouwer, Ruiz-Pipó, Edmundo Vasquez, Dodgson, Brindle, etc. Transcriptions are not excluded; these could include works by masters such as Dowland, Praetorius, Telemann, J.S. Bach, Scriabin, De Falla, etc. **Only students that have been admitted to the course Guitar I or above can be admitted to Guitar Ensemble.**

## Course Objectives

The participation in guitar ensembles is required for all students with a major or minor in classical guitar. Participation in these groups will enable the students to enhance their music reading (a real problem for guitarists), to learn the basic skills of chamber music, and to broaden their view of the repertoire. This will show the students some of the possibilities of the performing arts that will give them more chances of survival (as professional musicians) in the "real world". The general expectation for each assigned piece is two hours minimum per week for rehearsal, and one hour and fifty minutes per week for coaching with the instructor, distributed among all the ensembles. A typical assignment is two pieces at least per semester, or between fifteen and twenty-five minutes of music depending on the level of the piece.

The best students are encouraged to join any chamber music groups that would require a classical guitar. The possibilities for performance in our Department of Music are numerous; do not miss any opportunity to enhance your musical experience.

**Course Requirements:** Students are responsible for playing independent parts in rehearsals, coachings and performances. This encompasses the independent practice and preparation of these parts, cooperative work during rehearsals and coachings, and attendance in rehearsals, coachings and performances. Allowances are made for documented illness, approved university activities, emergencies and individual conflicts approved in advance by the instructor. Be fair to your fellow students and players and be dependable for rehearsals and coaching sessions. **If you are ill, call prior to class and notify the instructor.**

## Grading -

Your grading is based in class participation and preparation, ensemble work (your positive attitude towards the group will be taken into consideration), and concert performances. **Class attendance is extremely important and any unjustified absence will count against you in the way of half a point of the total grade for two absences, a full point of the total grade for three absences, two full points after the fourth absence.** There are no possible replacements for lost classes in this type of course. Remember that this course is a requirement for music majors, a poor performance in it may be associated to your instrumental performing capabilities when looking for a job or

for admission in a graduate school. A third of your final grade will be determined by the quality of your performances; the other two thirds of the final grade will be determined by class preparation and performance preparation.

**Adjudication of grades** will follow the University of Central Florida new policy of grading practices. In the guitar studio this will be as follows:

A = 95-100; A- = 90-94; B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82; C+ = 77-79;

C = 73-76; C- = 70-72; D+ = 65-69; D = 60-64; D- = 55-59; F = 0-54

**Note: The contents of this Syllabus can be modified at any moment during the academic year or the semester. All students are required to have their own music stands.**