

Guitar Class - MUAG 1107

Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Juan Jose Alpizar, M.M.

Classical Guitar Teaching Fellow. Email: Juan.AlpizarRodriguez@unt.edu

Office: Bain Hall room 224. Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00 am to 11:00 am (By appointment).

What You'll Be Learning

Course Description:

Classical guitar for beginners. This class is an introduction to playing guitar in the classical style.

Structure:

In person group class instruction MWF 12:20 pm- 1:10 pm. Room 116.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Develop a solid foundation in classical guitar technique, including proper posture, hand position, tone production, and basic fingerstyle playing.
- 2) Learn to read and perform music using standard notation, modern guitar tablature, and chord diagrams.
- 3) Perform solo and ensemble music while building effective practice habits and confidence playing with others.

How We'll Learn Together

Please join me in creating an inclusive learning environment where we will learn together and from each other. I encourage you to ask questions, help one another, practice before each class, and bring a positive attitude. This class is going to be a lot of fun as we learn to play solo repertoire while also preparing music together as an ensemble!

Required Materials

Nylon-string classical guitar, subject to approval by instructor. Footstool or guitar support. Electronic Tuner or tuning app on your phone. Failure to secure materials by the 3rd class day will result in a lowering of the final grade by one letter grade for every class day that materials are missing.

All other materials will be supplied by the instructor.

Course Policies

- Attendance is required for every class. Your 2nd unexcused absence will lower the final grade by one letter grade (i.e. “A” to “B”). Every unexcused absence after the 2nd will also result in lowering the final grade by one letter.
- **Required Course Performance:** Students must perform in the UNT Guitar Ensemble Recital on November 17, 2026 (7:00 p.m. soundcheck, 8:00 p.m. performance). Failure to perform in this recital will result in an automatic failing grade for the course.
- Students are required to attend at least one UNT Guitar recital or event in addition to the required UNT Guitar Ensemble Recital. Approved events and dates will be announced in class, posted on Canvas, and updated in the course schedule as they become available.
- Students are required to be in class, with their instruments, on time. We need time to prepare our instruments, music, and tune our guitars. We might need to set up and tear down the room as well. As such, everyone must be punctual for us to get to the instruction as soon as possible
- Students are required to participate in all class instruction. Participation involves following the learning directions of the instructor, listening to others who are performing, and performing directed excerpts.
- Students are required to prepare for class by reviewing material from the previous class. At least 10 minutes of practice on the guitar per day is required.
- No cell phone use is allowed in class. For emergencies, please take your phone outside.
- Students are required to bring any material passed out by the instructor to class. There is no textbook, so it is your responsibility to care for any material that is passed out to you.

Schedule

The following schedule is subject to change.

Date	Topic
08/17-09/04	UNIT 1: Posture, Warming-up, Standard Notation, Open Position notes, First Left-hand positions, Right-hand Thumb, PIMA Block, Arpeggios, Basic Chords and Tone production.
08/28	<i>Last Day to Drop a Class Section Without a W</i>
09/07	<i>Labor Day – No Classes– University Closed</i>
09/09-10/02	UNIT 2: Reading in Different Positions, Bar Chords, Fingerings, First Solo and Ensemble pieces.
10/05-11/20	UNIT 3: Fundamentals of Ensemble Rehearsal and Performance.
11/06	<i>Last day for a student to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W</i>
11/17	UNT Guitar Ensemble Concert 8pm Recital Hall/ 7pm Soundcheck
11/23-11/29	<i>Thanksgiving Break – No Classes– University Closed</i>
11/30-12/02	Final during class on 11/30 12/02

Grading Policy

Students will be graded based on their participation/preparation, UNT Guitar recital or event attendance, and the final. Participation/preparation will be graded on a pass/fail system for each of our class meetings. If you are not participating or preparing for each class as outlined in the Course Policies section, you will not receive a point for the day. You must attend one UNT Guitar recital or event. The final will be in the form of a prepared solo, or excerpt of music worked on during the semester and provided by the instructor.

Criteria	% of Final Grade
Participation/Preparation	80
UNT Guitar Recital or Event Attendance	10
Final	10
Total	100

Grading Scale

A = 90%-100%

D = 60%-69%

B = 80%-89%

F = 0%-59%

C = 70%-79%

Anything on this syllabus is subject to change. The updated Syllabus will be uploaded on canvas, and students will receive notification. *

UNT POLICIES

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair

advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Fall Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Semester Calendar, Fall 2026

See: [Fall Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

Additional Resources for Faculty

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (including sample statement for syllabi)

See: [Faculty Guide for the Use of AI](#)

Link: <https://guides.library.unt.edu/artificial-intelligence/AIfaculty>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>