**Syllabus for Undergraduate and Graduate Guitar Lessons, 1526, 3526, 5526**

Davy Mooney, Noel Johnston, Paul Metzger, Ivan Gygi, Will St. Peter, instructors

Davy Mooney office hours: posted outside of room 277

Other instructors’ office hours by appointment

**Course Objectives**

For Undergraduates:

1. To learn the repertoire of standards from the Great American Songbook, as well as jazz standards from the “common practice period” of jazz, i.e., from the bebop to contemporary eras
2. To develop reading ability through study of jazz and classical etudes
3. To improve technical ability on the guitar in the interest of better ease of execution of written material and improvisation

For Graduates:

1. To continues to progress in the three objectives above
2. To begin to develop an individual sound
3. To begin to compose original material

A note on graduate objectives two and three

Developing an original sound as a jazz artist is a long term—and extremely difficult—goal to achieve. As one progresses in the fundamentals of the jazz practice, as articulated by the undergraduate course objectives, the long-term goal of achieving one’s own voice should always be in back of mind. This is, of course, a highly individualized quest, and one in which the instructor can only serve as a helpful guide. In my own practice, I have found that composing original material has helped me to find and hone this individual voice, so in many ways graduate objectives two and three are of a piece.

**Recommended Texts**

Personalizing Jazz Vocabulary, by Davy Mooney, Mel Bay Publishing

This book lays out my philosophy on learning how to improvise with classic jazz language. I recommend it to anyone who wants insight into how I learned to play this music, and how I think about teaching it to others.

Jazz Guitar Reading and Improvisation Material:

Melodic Rhythms for Guitar, by William Levitt

Barry Galbraith Jazz Guitar Study Series:

1) The Fingerboard Workout

2) Daily Exercises in the Melodic and Harmonic Minor Modes

3) Guitar Comping

4) Play Along With Bach

5) Guitar Improv, by Barry Galbraith

Joe Pass’s “Catch Me!,” “Joy Spring,” and “For Django:” Transcription and Analysis, by Davy Mooney

Bop Duets, by Bugs Bower

The Advancing Guitarist, by Mick Goodrick

Jazz Ear Training: Learning to Hear Your Way Through Music, by Steve Masakowski

Play Duets with Jimmy Raney, by Jimmy Raney (Aebersold vol. 29)

Classical Reading Material:

42 Studies of Caprices, by Rodolphe Kreutzer

Sonatas and Partitas for the Violin, by J.S. Bach

Saxophone Studies:

The Charlie Parker Omnibook, edited by Jamey Aebersold

14 Jazz and Funk Etudes, by Bob Mintzer

The Jazz Conception, by Jim Snidero

note: *I studied the above classical violin and jazz saxophone material with Fred Hamilton for two years, and found it both illuminating and highly relevant to jazz guitar study. I hope to continue the Fred Hamilton legacy with this material!*

**Weekly Lesson Breakdown**

Weekly lessons will be split into thirds, roughly, covering these topic areas: 20 minutes on reading material and etudes, 20 minutes on playing and improvising, 20 minutes on chord melody. These 20-minute periods can of course be adjusted depending upon individual circumstance. For Graduate students, review of students’ original material may also occupy a significant portion of the lesson time. Weekly lessons will be graded, and these three main topic areas will be treated equally toward the weekly grade (each will compose 30%), with attendance, attitude, and miscellaneous assignments comprising the remaining 10%.

**Repertoire/Tune List**

In order to build a substantial, varied, and practically useful repertoire of pieces in the jazz idiom, students will be expected to learn approximatelytwo tunes from each of the following categories over the course of the semester (the tunes in parenthesis are only suggestions):

1. Great American Songbook standard (Days of Wine and Roses, Dream Dancing)
2. Ballad (Easy Living, Darn That Dream)
3. Bebop head or intricate melody (Segment, Conception)
4. Brazilian/Straight 8ths groove (Ana Maria, Triste)
5. Jazz Standard (Moment’s Notice, Along Came Betty)

These categories can be supplemented by other material as well, at the instructor’s discretion. **For the final jury, students must have six of these tunes memorized and must create their own backing track for each**. I recommend creating a recording of yourself comping—a re-creation of the duo guitar style that we play in lessons. Use a metronome. Three to five choruses (depending on the type of tune) should suffice.

**Transcription**

The student will be expected to transcribe two **full** solos per semester, one for the mid-term and one for the final jury. It is recommended that at least one of these solos be a guitar solo. **Both these solos should be computer notated, and** **the student must email a pdf of the computer notated transcription to their instructor and copy** [**david.mooney@unt.edu**](mailto:david.mooney@unt.edu). For the final jury transcription, bring a hard copy of the transcription with you for Professor Mooney.The solo should be performed along with the recording, and the student should match the articulation and time feel of the soloist as well as the pitches and rhythms.

**Chord Melody**

The student will be expected to arrange two jazz standards for solo performance, in collaboration with the instructor, one for the mid-term and the other for the final jury. At least one of these should be a rubato ballad, which should be ornamented and embellished using techniques such as back-cycling, chord inversions, moving inner lines, single-note fills, and a variety of right hand articulation techniques.

**Recording Lessons**

Students are encouraged to record their lessons. Something that you or your instructor play during the lesson may be memorable or useful to you in the future. You also might want to chart your progress aurally over the course of the semester.

**Tune Transcription**

Given the varied quality of lead sheets of jazz tunes, you may be called upon to transcribe or correct a lead sheet of a standard tune. These lead sheets will be shared with the guitar department, and I encourage you to play these tunes on your gigs and add them to your repertoire.

**Grading**

The student must complete weekly assignments, in accord with all of the above course objectives and goals. A positive attitude and enthusiasm for the jazz practice are also key to a successful semester of lessons. Attendance at each week’s lessons is mandatory, although in the case of illness or other unavoidable conflict absence may be excused. The instructor will make up any missed lessons, but student absences will not be rescheduled. **Each week’s lesson will be graded (see “Weekly Lesson Breakdown” above) and averaged to make up 50% of the semester’s grade. The mid-term transcription and chord melody will make up a further 20% of the semester’s grade**.

**30-Minute Lessons with Dr. Mooney**

I wish there were a way for me to teach all of you privately, but the math doesn’t work. I teach everyone during the semester of their senior and master’s recitals, but I want to have more regular face-time with everyone in the department as they progress in their degree plans. So I will teach each of you one 30-minute lesson per semester, in addition to your weekly lessons with your instructor.

(Sorry, but this is suspended due to the pandemic)

**Guitar Departmental**

The UNT jazz guitar departmental takes place every Friday, from 2 to 3pm, in room 262. You may be called upon to perform, space and time permitting: a short, 15 to 20 minute, 2-tune set. I recommend guitar trio, or quartet with horn or piano, with bass and drums. I will film these performances and they will be emailed to you. Seeing yourself perform live provides insight into the way your music is perhaps perceived by the audience—this is subjective and intangible, but it is helpful to put yourself in the audience’s place, in some small way, by watching your performance. I recommend watching once or twice, analyzing strengths and weaknesses, but not getting overly obsessed with one performance. Jazz is an in-the-moment music, and the effectiveness of your playing will vary from day to day. I will also give you written comments on your performances, as will your private lesson teacher and other adjunct faculty who are present. **The music you play at departmental must be memorized.** **Attendance at guitar departmental is required**, **and will be taken**.

**Juries**

The student will perform for a faculty panel at the end of each semester. The student will be required to perform a chord melody, a transcription, and one etude (which need not be memorized) from the semester’s study. The student must also submit their six-tune repertoire list, and prepare a backing track **of guitar and metronome only** for each of the six tunes. One of these six will be chosen by Dr. Mooney and performed with the backing track. **The jury will make up the remaining 30% of the semester’s grade.**

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/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf>

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 to be delivered to faculty to begin a

private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may

request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of

accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester

to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a

new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with

each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For

additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: ODA

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

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of

human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints

enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of

biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive

leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As

such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere

that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to

support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race,

color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity,

gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in

its application and admission process, educational programs and

activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: Diversity Statement

Link:

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018\_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub

8\_.18.pdf

2020-2021 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

See: Fall Registration Guide

Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2020-2021

See: Academic Calendar

Link: https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2020-21/calendar

Final Exam Schedule

Note: See updates on the final exam schedule at Fall 2020 Instructional

Guide

See: Final Exam Schedule

https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall

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 UNTInternational

or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to

discuss dropping a course.

See: Financial Aid

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

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/

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose

position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the

College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit

the Center’s website for further information:

See: Counseling and Testing

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

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:

See: Mental Health Issues

Link: https://speakout.unt.edu.

The counselor for music students is:

Myriam Reynolds

Chestnut Hall, Suite 311

(940) 565-2741

Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

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. After the 12th class day, students must

first submit a completed “Request to Drop” form to the Registrar’s Office.

The last day for a student to drop a class in Spring, 2020 is March 30th.

Information about add/drop may be found at:

See: Add Drop

Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-add-drop

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For

a complete list, go to:

See: Student Resources

Link: https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource\_sheet.pdf