­­­­MUAC 1526/3526/5526

UNT Jazz Guitar Private Lessons

Course Syllabus/Outline

Course Instructor

Paul Metzger

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Office Bain Hall 118

Office Hours by appointment

**Course Material Requirements** (ALWAYS bring these to class)

\*Guitar and necessary accessories (An amp, cable, metronome, tuner and music stand are supplied at the studio.)

\*Books or approved material to be determined by teacher based on student’s level and interest

\*Manuscript/ TAB book or Spiral notebook

\*Pen or Pencil

**Student Learning Outcomes**

To play jazz music on the guitar;

Melodies, Comping, Soloing, Chord-Melody, Exercises, Etudes,

To study and perform jazz repertoire

To transcribe jazz solos and analyze them

To improve reading skills

**Grading** (THIS SYLLABUS AND GRADING PROCEDURE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

A final grade will be based on the following

1. **Weekly Preparation and demonstration of Midterm and Final Jury Material tunes, etudes, chord-melody and transcriptions** (30%)
2. **Four exercises** (5% each, 20% total)

**New students** will video record the following exercises and submit them by UNT email by FRIDAY NOON of the listed week or can be performed in that week’s lesson.

**Returning students** will video record exercises agreed upon by teacher and student and submit them by UNT email by FRIDAY NOON of the listed week or can be performed in that week’s lesson.

**Week 4- SCALE PATTERN FLUENCY PREP EXERCISE**

**Week 7- Major ii-V7-I-VI7 Drop 2 voicings on strings 1-4 in all 12 keys**

**Week 11- Minor iim7b5-V7b9-i-bIII7 Drop 2 voicings on strings 1-4 in all 12 keys**

**Week 15- 3 Ways In, 2 Ways Out exercises**

1. **Weekly Attendance** (10%)
2. **Timely Communication** (5%)
3. **Midterm Performance** (10%) **(usually Week 7)**

Perform a Transcription and a Chord Melody

1. **Final Jury Performance** (20%) **(usually Week 15)**

Perform a Transcription, a Chord Melody, Submit an Etude via video

AND Make a list of 6 tunes we addressed during the semester.

Record a 3 minute backing track for each, email them to [David.Mooney@unt.edu](mailto:David.Mooney@unt.edu) before you walk in to your jury. Play the melody and solo on what Davy chooses.

1. **A 2-song performance for Jazz Guitar Departmental Fridays 2-3p, MU262**

(not graded but feedback will be provided, time tbd)

1. **A 4-paragraph self-evaluation of your semester** (5%). Discuss the material presented,

your overall effort, what you think you should focus on and some strategies to how to achieve that and what would make me a better teacher (5%).

**LATE VIDEO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE PENALIZED 1 OR 2 LETTER GRADES**

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend regularly scheduled lessons.

If the student must miss, let me know by 8am on the day of your lesson EMAIL or TEXT.

-This will be considered an **INFORMED ABSENCE**.

-The student will receive in a “C” for the first TWO such situations with no makeup lesson.

-Beyond two, any absence will result in the student earning an “F” for that week’s lesson with no make-up.

-If you’re sick or have an emergency, any official supporting documentation will be considered in grading.

ANY **uninformed absence** will result in an “F” for that week’s lesson and no make-up.

-The student forfeits the lesson if they arrive more than 10 minutes late without an EMAIL or TEXT.

-I’ll let you know if I need to miss. We’ll find time to make it up..

A (10)= Student is on time

B (8.5)=Student arrives up to 10 minutes late

C (7)= Informed Absence

F (0) =Uninformed Absence

**Weekly Lessons**

Lesson material is geared toward preparing the student to successfully meet the performance expectations listed above.

Additional assignments may be given to help remedy areas of need.

Students will demonstrate their weekly progress and be graded on their improvement and effort.

1) Repertoire- Memorize and perform 6+ jazz tunes for **Final Jury** in the following ways;

Melody

Comping

Improvisation

Harmonization (Chord Melody)

2) Transcribed Solos- Transcribe and perform two jazz solos (for **Midterm** and **Final Jury**)

3) Chord-Melody- Perform two harmonized arrangements (for **Midterm** and **Final Jury**)

4) Etude Video record yourself playing an etude (for **Final Jury**)

5) 4 Exercises

6) A two-song performance during Jazz Guitar Departmental Fridays 2-3p in MU262

This point system roughly reflects how the teacher assesses an assignment performance of weekly assignments.

A=100-90 Excellent evidence of command, improvement and effort; 1-2 mistakes

B=85 Good evidence of improvement and effort; 3-5 mistakes

C=70 Average evidence of improvement and effort 6-8 mistakes

D=50 Little evidence of improvement and effort 9+ mistakes

F=0 Absent N/A

I strongly recommend students **get a decent Fake Book** or access to good lead sheets. Additional assignments may be chosen from recordings, books, handouts, online sources or formulated and agreed upon in lesson time by student and teacher.

**SUGGESTED BOOKS FOR STUDY**

“Technique, Tunes and Reading”

Fred Hamilton

**Learning Tunes- LISTEN to jazz a lot.**

To help you develop your skills, there are many fake books, songbooks, transcription books, websites, videos, etc. The student may (and should) choose material that suits their musical interest and needs.

Listening to great jazz recordings is essential to developing as a jazz performer. As a start for the less familiar, here are three classic jazz albums that feature the guitar, and reflect the elements required for this development. I suggest studying tunes and solos found on these recordings, both for repertoire and transcription.

Wes Montgomery “The Incredible Jazz Guitar of Wes Montgomery” 1960

Jim Hall “Jazz Guitar” 1957

Barney Kessel “ Lester Young with The Oscar Peterson Trio” 1954

There are many, many others! Search “Great jazz guitarists” or “Essential jazz guitar records” on the internet for more recommendations.

**Reading-** *SUGGESTED BOOKS FOR STUDY marked* (R) *have few or no TAB/fret board charts, and are effective reading material.*

Berklee- Melodic Rhythms for Guitar by William Leavitt (R)

Jazz Conception for Saxophone, Beginning thru Advanced by Lennie Niehaus (R)

Barry Galbraith Concepts in Logical Fingering, (v. 1-5) (R)

Bach Violin Sonatas and Partitas (R)

Kreutzer 42 Studies (R)

Modern Reading Text in 4/4 by Louis Bellson (R)

Sight-Reading for the Contemporary Guitarist by Tom Dempsey (R)

Music for Sight Singing by Robert Ottman (R)

Any Duets (R)

**Technique-** Vocabulary, Fretboard knowledge, Chord/Scale application and execution

Berklee- A Modern Method for Guitar (v.1-3) by William Leavitt (R)

Beginning/Intermediate/Advanced Jazz Guitar by Jody Fisher

The Advancing Guitarist by Mick Goodrick

Jazz Guitar Series by Andrew Green (R)

For Guitar Players Only by Tommy Tedesco (R)

Joe Pass Guitar Series (R)

Linear Expressions by Pat Martino

Mickey Baker’s Complete Course in Jazz Guitar (R)

Hal Leonard Jazz Guitar Method by Jeff Schroedl

Inside Improvisation: Developing a Jazz Language v.6 by Jerry Bergonzi (R)

**Technique (con’t)-**

How to Create and Develop a Jazz Sax Solo by Arnie Berle (R)

Chords Galore by Jack Petersen

Terrifying Technique by Carl Culpeper

**Reference-**

The Guitar Handbook by Ralph Denyer

Jazzology by Nor Eddin Bahha and Robert Rawlins (R)

The Jazz Language by Dan Haerle

***UNT REQUIRES ALL SYLLABI TO INCLUDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOUND IN THIS LINK***

[Spring 2025 Syllabus Information.docx](https://myunt-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/personal/paul_metzger_unt_edu/Documents/Attachments/Spring%202025%20Syllabus%20Information.docx?d=w0ead041f20d545b4856539d6b370e9bf&csf=1&web=1&e=KqrAQx)

IT WILL HELP YOU FIND ANSWERS ABOUT THE FOLLOWING COMMON ISSUES STUDENTS OFTEN EXPERIENCE HERE AT UNT.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT**

**ODA STATEMENT**

**Health and Safety Information**

**Registration Information for Students**

**Academic Calendar, Spring 2025**

**Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2025**

**Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress**

**RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

**COUNSELING AND TESTING**

**ADD/DROP POLICY**

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

**CARE TEAM**

FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THIS RESOURCE

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