



MULB 1817.500 – Super 400 Guitar ensemble
MUSI 262 | M/W 5:00 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.

Runsheng Zhao

Office hour: By appointment

Contact info: Runshengzhao@my.unt.edu Tel: 940-594-3835
(Email with school email is strongly encouraged as the most professional way, Phone number is provided in case of emergency)

Course Philosophy and Goal

By the end of this course, students will:

- Develop the ability to blend with other guitarists as a unified section, similar to a horn section in a big band.
- Strengthen ensemble skills by executing written lines with precision, balance, and stylistic awareness.
- Improve proficiency in reading, comping, and soloing across a variety of musical styles.
- Gain experience in arranging by creating one chart for guitar ensemble, including five guitar parts, one bass part, and one drum part. This arrangement may be based on a jazz standard or an original composition.
- Enhance listening, communication, and collaborative musicianship in a group setting.

Performance Timeline

- **Wed, Feb 4 (Week 4)**
9:00 pm – 12:00 midnight | Syndicate
- **Friday, Feb 20 (Week 6)**
12:00 – 12:50 pm | Syndicate
- No Rehearsal on March 4th. (Runsheng Zhao Recital)
- **Tue, April 7 (Week 12)**
9:00 pm – 12:00 midnight | Syndicate (Arrangement Showcase)

Arrangement Submission Guidelines

To have your arrangement featured in the final Syndicate show, you must submit your score at least two weeks prior to allow sufficient rehearsal time. It is recommended to start small and develop your chart step by step, progressing toward the final version.

- Submission Format:
- All digital submissions are due by Sunday night of the listed week.
- In some cases, you may also be required to bring a printed, taped and/or stapled copy to meet the submission requirements.

Timeline

- **Sun, Jan 18 (Week 1)** – Format Drill

Submit a template score including all required parts (5 guitars, bass, drums) with correct formatting: fonts, indentation, measures per line, rhythm slashes, chord changes, etc. The score must be taped or stapled. Assignment details will be provided later in the semester.

- **Sun, Jan 25 (Week 2)** – Format Drill 2

After having some feedback, you need to revise your format drill.

By this date, you should also choose your tune.

- **Sun, Feb 8th (Week 4)** – Melody and Form

Submit a score demonstrating the melody and structure of your chosen arrangement.

- **Sun, Feb 22 (Week 6)** – Harmony and Soli

Submit a score with a harmonized melody and/or a soli section.

- **Sun, Mar 8 (Week 8)** – First Draft

Submit a rehearsal-ready score with all parts included. The score must be correctly taped or stapled for review and revision.

- **Sun, Mar 22 (Week 10)** – Final Draft

Submit your final draft for peer performance at the Syndicate on **Oct 14 (Week 9)**.

Policies and Grading

Grading: Your grade will be made up of three separate components this semester

- 1) Attendance (33.3%)
- 2) Preparation (33.3%)
- 3) Arrangement (33.4%)

Attendance: Because this is an ensemble-based course, each student's presence, preparation, and communication support not only their own learning but also the success of the entire group. Developing habits of punctuality and clear communication is an important part of becoming a professional musician. This policy is meant to help cultivate those skills in a supportive environment and to prepare students for the expectations they will encounter in real-world musical settings.

When it comes to your arrangement work, remember that even a partial draft is better than nothing—it gives the instructor a chance to guide you and offer constructive feedback.

- Regular attendance is required.
- Each student is allowed **one (1) unexcused absence and three (3) excused absences** during the semester.
- An unexcused absence is defined as failure to communicate with the instructor before the scheduled rehearsal time.

- An excused absence requires notification at least 24 hours in advance and arranging for a substitute to cover your role.
- Students are expected to be ready to play at 5:00 PM (downbeat). Arriving more than 10 minutes late will count as one excused absence.
- Each absence beyond the allowed limit will result in a reduction of one letter grade.
- If you must miss a class, you are responsible for notifying the instructor in advance, securing a substitute, and catching up on all missed material.

University Policies and Information

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. 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: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Fall 2025

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

Final Exam Schedule, Fall 2025

See above

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>

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 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>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

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>