Course Outline: Classical Guitar Studio

Classes and attendance
All students receive 12 lessons in each term at a fixed time each week. Presence at classes is mandatory and absences will affect the studio mark. As outlined in the MPS hand book students do not receive make up classes for classes other than those missed by the teacher. Please send a group email to your fellow guitar students and post your time as available if you are unable to come due to illness: someone else could be helped by the available time and may do the same for you! In case of serious illness and prolonged absence, please refer to the online MPS hand book.

At the end of each term a studio mark is awarded reflecting progress in jury repertoire, technique, attendance, productivity and participation in the studio recital. Your final mark is an average of both term marks and the jury mark.

Concert attendance cards
All students in MPS are required to attend a minimum number of concerts during the academic year. You will receive an attendance card that needs signing by a faculty member present at the concert attended. Please consult the concert calendar posted on the Faculty website to help you choose which concerts fit your likes and schedule. The Friday 12:30 concerts are an excellent start. Anything you yourself participate in does not count, but attending fellow student recitals does. Not having attended the required number of attended concerts will result in a deduction of 5 points of the performance class mark (which is marked out of 10)

Performance classes for the combined Guitar Studios
The total number of Performance Classes is calculated based on the number of students in the guitar studios. Attendance is mandatory for all students except those in 1925, 2925 and courses ending in y. Students in these courses are welcome and strongly encouraged to attend, but no mark will be given and attendance will not affect the studio mark.

Each student must be prepared to play in each of the performance classes.

Performance classes will focus on presenting complete pieces, allowing students to gain awareness of the preparation required to get a piece ready for public performance, and providing an opportunity for reflection afterwards.

At the end of Term 2 a Performance Class mark out of 10 is awarded reflecting progress in overall presentation (expression, readiness to play, tone projection, memorization) and participation/attendance.

Studio Recitals
Students required to be in Performance Classes are also required to perform in the studio’s recital(s). Those students who are not required to can be invited to play provided they attend the performance classes, recital time is available and their playing is performance-ready. A student may be barred from playing should preparation be insufficient. This is to guarantee the overall quality of the program as it will be open to the public and reflects on the guitar studio as well as the Faculty of Music.

This year the studio recitals will be on Nov 17 and Feb 2, both in S242 at 8pm

Master Classes by visiting artists
TBA
Course repertoire and technique

All in May 2010 revised and updated (!) Jury Requirements are posted on-line in the MPS handbook. Each student must familiarize him/herself with this document AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. You are expected to have a print-out of your course requirements with you when you come to your lessons!

Course repertoire is decided on with the teacher to avoid inappropriate material and to aid in the student’s overall development creating a manageable, balanced and interesting jury program.

All students will be tested regularly on the progress of technical development. Short scale tests will be played in the lesson at the end of Sept, Oct and Nov for 1st term as well as Jan, Feb and March for 2nd term.

A self-evaluation sheet will be provided on which the students record their personal goals, expectations and progress. You must have this sheet with you at each lesson and performance class.

Additional Course Material
The Music Faculty has a very well stocked CD library. As part of your course work you will be required to take out and listen to a variety of music, mostly to aid your immersion into the classical guitar world and to help you gain insight in period styling, phrasing, tone and context for the material you may be playing. A 50-CD list will be provided: carry it with you in your binder and bookmark the music library search page!

When obtaining specific scores from the library you must photocopy them right away if they are to be used in the lesson: Annotations are not to be made in the library books! To that end carry your library card and change for the photocopier.

Each student must obtain the following items before classes start:
Folding Music Stand
Foot stool (or equivalent)
Right arm sleeve, if you wear short sleeves: a cut-off sock will do fine!
Professional nail file (metal or glass, NO emery boards: too coarse),
600 wet/dry sand paper
Nail glue (we prefer Nailene, no super glue) fake nails and acrylic powder (Available as a kit in any well stocked pharmacy: this is a long-term investment!)
Capo, suitable for a classical guitar
Binder/folder in which to keep music, CD list, self-evaluation sheets and course requirements
Metronome (some will be able to download one onto a cell phone)
Tuner or tuning fork (as above)
Spare set of strings
Pencils with erasers

Apart from the music stand you will need to have all of it with you in every class.
Studio Protocol

The Guitar Studio is on the 4th floor of Talbot College. Room TC 437.

Please read your email regularly and respond promptly, when asked to do so.

Please leave your studio teacher the email address you will be using during the school year if it has changed from last year’s, or, if you are a new student, it is different from the one we have now. If you are not on the studio list, we will consult by email with you on what is the best time for your lesson. Wilma will schedule lessons on Monday night (grad and 4th yr likely) and Friday (8:30-6) Bob will teach Wednesday evening. We will email the finalized studio schedule, including info on performance class dates before classes start. The first Friday class is September 11.

For lessons arrive in time with polished nails, tuned and having done some warm up. Knock on the door if it is your lesson time.

**Due to a strong sensitivity to certain elements in perfumes/sprays I must ask you to refrain from using these products before coming to the studio. My lungs thank for your cooperation! Any Axe and Old Spice products seem to be particularly bad for me, but Tide and Ivory products are also a problem.**

Formal evening wear/dress is required for class recitals. As a guide: if you can wear it for choir performances you can for the recitals! If you are not in choir: think black suit with white shirt or dress pants and a dressy shirt (no open collars). Traditionally women are allowed more colour than men for an evening performance. Semi-formal for juries is fine.

We are looking forward to working with you this year!