



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**APPLIED COMMERCIAL MUSIC – COMMERCIAL GUITAR  
MUSP 2141 02**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**CLARK NAUERT**

# APPLIED COMMERCIAL GUITAR

MUSP 2141 02

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## **Course Description:**

Provides private instruction in commercial guitar with goals related to proficiency in performing commercial music styles (blues, rock, country, jazz and other styles of popular music). The student will:

- 1) demonstrate proficiency in commercial music repertoire and technique (as demonstrated by successful playing of weekly assignments in lessons)
- 2) develop a professional, disciplined approach to practice and preparation (keep a daily practice journal and bring it to each guitar lesson, also see number 1 above).
- 3) attend departmental concerts as assigned
- 4) Present a juried performance, with his/her instructor, for string faculty at the end of the semester. See **Course Outline** on page 4 of this syllabus for more information on the jury.

## **Co-requisites:**

Co-requisite: concurrent enrollment in a Commercial Music Ensemble – exceptions must be approved by program director.

## **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

Students will keep a practice journal in which practice time, material practiced, questions and observations will be logged. The instructor will check the journal weekly.

A jury will be played at the semester's end for the string faculty. This will demonstrate the work done and progress achieved during the semester. Scales, arpeggios, chord studies and several songs will need to be prepared for this event.

Students are required to practice the guitar lesson material at least one hour per day. Guitar majors should set aside time to practice the guitar lesson material at least 2 hours per day.

It is highly recommend that students use a metronome. Free metronome apps are available for the smartphone of your choice. A metronome can also be found for anywhere from \$20.00 to \$55.00 at local music stores or online. A \$20.00 metronome will be more than adequate.

Also, an electronic tuner will be very helpful. It will allow you to tune your guitar quickly before class and every time you practice. Once again, tuner apps are available for the smartphone of

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your choice. The free apps may not be as helpful/precise as the apps that must be purchased. You can also find a tuner for anywhere from \$20.00 to \$50.00 or more at a music store or online. If you're not sure about which one to get, email or call me (299-8258).

### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Clark Nauert

MCC E-mail: [cnauert@mclennan.edu](mailto:cnauert@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: 299-8258

Office Location: PAC 101

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: will be posted 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes

### **Required Text & Materials:**

TEXT: Text will include one of the following: Mel Bay Modern Guitar Method I by Mel Bay.

Fast Track Guitar 1 - Blake Neely and Jeff Schroedl, published by Hal Leonard;

Reading Studies - William Leavitt, published by Berklee press.

*See your instructor before purchasing the text for this course.*

As in any other course, your textbook is essential. You cannot pass this course without completing the material required in the textbook.

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

### **Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at

<http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources, we encourage you to contact a success coach by calling (254) 299-8226. Students can visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to meet with a success coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) is open 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, without an appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

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### **Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

### **Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be contacted/notified through your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**\* [Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)**  
**([www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements))**

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

Projects, student performances / presentations, applied quizzes.

### **Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

To develop the skills necessary to work as a professional guitarist by learning the following (at the current skill level of the student):

- 1) play a variety of **accompaniment** styles.
- 2) **improvise** using **scales** and **arpeggio** patterns combined with knowledge of chord-scale relationships.
- 3) **read** chord charts and melody lines.
- 4) play a continually expanding repertoire of **songs**.

### **Course Outline:**

Weekly grades will be given based on the student's progress toward the goals assigned at each weekly lesson. Fourteen 50 minute lessons will be given during the course of the semester. There will be no lesson the first week of classes while student and instructor schedules are put in place. There will not be a lesson during the last week of the semester as it is exam week and the student will have played the equivalent of the guitar lesson exam the week before on jury day.

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Five written reviews of live performances by MCC performing groups will be turned in before the end of the semester. See the instructor for details concerning the contents of the reviews. This will count as 12% of the final grade.

**A jury will be played at the end of the semester.** This will be a short presentation of no more than 10 minutes. The student will play material representative of the study done during the semester. This typically consists of the performance of a song or songs and some technique studies. The student will play the melody, chord progression (with proper accompaniment style), and improvise over the chord progression of the song(s) assigned for the jury. Technical studies such as scales and arpeggios may also be assigned for the jury. The jury performance will count as 11% of the final grade.

### **Course Grading Information:**

GRADING:	Attendance	- 34%
	Weekly Assignments	- 33%
	Performance Reviews	- 11%
	Jury	- 11%
	MIC Student Meetings	- 11%

### **Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

Attendance – attendance is vital. You will see your guitar instructor only once a week – for a little less than one hour! Missing **one** guitar lesson is the same as missing **an entire week** of an M-W or T-TH class.

After 4 absences (25% of course meetings) you will be dropped from the course.

Make-up lessons will be given at the discretion of the instructor and only if prior notice for the missed lesson has been given by the student. For more on attendance, see the MCC attendance policy.

### **Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

**Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity.**

\* **[Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](#)**

([www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity))

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

\* **[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)**

([www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies))

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

**Accommodations/ADA Statement**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [mclennan.edu/disability](http://mclennan.edu/disability).

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

\* **[Click Here for more information about Title IX](#)**

([www.mclennan.edu/titleix](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix))

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.

*\* You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link's information.*