Music 122 F Intermediate Slack Key Guitar 01
TTH: 1:30 - 2:30 (63359)

INSTRUCTOR: Ron Loo
OFFICE: Palanakila 144
OFFICE HOURS: Mon: 1:30 - 3:30
              Tues: 9:10 - 9:40, 2:45 – 4:15
              Wed: 8:55 - 9:25, 3:45 – 4:45
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EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2010

Windward Community College Mission Statement

Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:

Continuation of basic principles of slack key guitar; relevant problems in literature. Students will learn solos in a C tuning: Maunaloa (C 6th) and in Taro Patch (Open G) Tuning.

ACTIVITIES REQUIRED AT OTHER THAN REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES:

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE: Required.

FIELD TRIP(S): Optional.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Incorporate additional theoretical concepts in the performance of slack key music.
- Demonstrate knowledge of intermediate slack key techniques in performances.
- Sight read tablature notation with increasing accuracy and musicianship.
- Exhibit some confidence in performing slack key solos.
COURSE CONTENT:

Concepts or Topics
- History of Slack Key Guitar
- Time Signature, Tempo, Chords, Modulation, Accent, Endings
- Major Scale Applications
- Tunings, Chords, Vamps for: Taro Patch (Open G) Maunaloa (C 6th)
- Principles of Performance: Accuracy of Performance Fluidness of Performance Timing, Tonal Quality, and Presence
- Tablature System of Notation
- Slack Key Techniques
- Slack Key Literature
- Hawaiian Language Phrases

Skills
1. Identify and explain the significance of persons and/or events in the development of slack key guitar.
2. Use the components of music in both the performance and creation of music.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of melodies, chords, vamps, and tunings.
4. Use a standard pitch or relative method to tune the guitar.
5. Use the principles of performance in in-class and semester recitals.
6. Use slack key techniques in in-class and semester recitals.
7. Perform vamps, chords, and melodies from tablature notation and from memory.
8. Demonstrate understanding of Hawaiian language phrases.
COURSE TASKS:

1. Participate in bi-monthly in-class performances. This activity will require you to use basic concepts in music theory, observe principles of performance, use tablature notation, and/or demonstrate slack key techniques and knowledge of slack key tunings, vamps, chords, in playing exercises and/or excerpts from solos.

2. Perform two (2) slack key solos at the end of the course, one solo in each of the following tunings: Taro Patch (Open G major), Maunaloa (C 6th). This task will require you to use basic concepts in music theory, observe principles of performance, use tablature notation, and/or demonstrate slack key techniques in playing slack key solos. One (1) of the solos must be performed from memory.

3. Complete an in-class exam without the aid of reference materials. The exam will require you to demonstrate your understanding of the history of slack key, basic concepts in music theory, tunings (Taro Patch and Maunaloa), chords, vamps, and slack key literature.

4. Participate in a public performance. This task can be satisfied by performing at a care home or campus function. The performance will require you to demonstrate your knowledge of slack key tunings, musical concepts/principles, slack key compositions, skills and techniques used in slack key, principles of performance.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION:

The following learning modes are available to students in keeping with the philosophy of the college that alternative modes of learning be offered in recognition of the different learning styles of its students.

1. Traditional mode: consists of short lecture/demonstration sessions where classroom attendance is necessary for optimum results.

2. Independent Study: consists of a course of study which involves a contractual understanding between the student and the instructor where material can be pursued more independently than in the traditional mode of learning. (NOTE: The student must inform the
instructor during the first week of class about the
mode of learning he/she will adopt.)

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MODE OF INSTRUCTION:

3. Specific strategies used by the instructor:
   a. CD’s of songs for the course.
   b. Peer teaching techniques.
   c. Demonstration of slack key techniques.
   d. Handouts (designed by the instructor).
   e. Assigned readings.
   f. Short lectures (on history of slack key, basic concepts in music
      theory, principles of performance, tablature notation.)

METHOD OF GRADING:

1. Letter grades will be assigned based on the number of points earned
   for the course.

   A:  450 - 510
   B:  389 - 449
   C:  328 - 388
   D:  267 - 327
   F:  206 - 266

   W: Official withdrawal from the course. (This option must be initiated
      by the student.)
METHOD OF GRADING:

2. Relative weight of tasks performed:

Bi-monthly in-class performances       160 = (8 x 20)
Slack key solos                         160 = (2 x 80)
In-class exam                          80 = (1 x 80)
Public Performance                     80 = (1 x 80)
Attendance                             30 = (15 x 02)
                                           510

3. Criteria for evaluating in-class performances/solos:

   a. Accuracy of performance - Adherence to dynamic/tempo markings/key signature.
   b. Fluidness of performance - Did the music flow or was it haltingly performed?
   c. Timing - Rhythmic meter. Was the rhythmic meter discernible?
   d. Tonal Quality - Quality of the notes played. Freedom from buzzes and string noise.
   e. Presence - Ease with which the music was performed. Did the student maintain his/her poise throughout the performance?
LEARNING RESOURCES AND MATERIALS:

1. Recommended texts:
   - Sandberg, Larry: *Chords and Tunings For Fretted Instruments*
   - Smith, Matt: *Alternate Tunings*
   - Carol Wilcox, Kimo Hussey, Vick Hollinger, Puakea Nogelmeier: *He Mele Aloha: A Hawaiian Songbook*

2. Required text:
   - Loo, R.: *He Kalana Kakau Ki Ho'alu: Helu 'Elua*

3. Other materials:
   a. Other materials (designed by the instructor) will be disseminated in class.
   b. Reading materials will be assigned as appropriate.
OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Extra Credit:
   Students can earn 30 points by participating in the Semester Recital.

2. Type of course:
   This is a performance course. It will demand approximately five (5) hours of practice time per week outside of class meetings.

3. Attendance:
   Since “learning is by doing” in this course, students with erratic attendance rarely do well.

4. Bi-monthly in-class performances:
   These performances are scheduled for Thursdays and require students to perform exercises and/or excerpts from simple solos. Missed bi-monthly in-class performances can be made up only for documented illnesses or for valid emergencies (accidents, military call up.)

5. Cell phones and/or pagers:
   Please set cell phones and/or pagers to “silent” to allow the class to focus on the lesson of the day.

6. Classroom etiquette:
   Please refrain from working on/playing material unrelated to the course because it distracts the class from the lesson of the day.

7. Options for slack key solos include: Kane‘ohe, Healoha No ‘O Honolulu, Moana Chimes, Ahulili, Salomila.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, HYPERLINK "mailto:lemke@hawaii.edu" lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale ‘Akoakoa 213 for more information. Revised May 10, 2007
WEEKS 1-2  Pre-test
Overview of the course
Slack key tuning: Taro Patch (Open G major)
Slack key skills: slide, bar techniques, vamps, chords
Practice tablature for Kane‘ohe

WEEKS 3-4  Practice tablature for Kane‘ohe
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique, bass, hammer on-pull off
Learn lyrics for Kane‘ohe
Practice Hawaiian language phrases
Start practicing tablature for Healoha No ‘O Honolulu

WEEKS 5-6  Practice tablature for Healoha No ‘O Honolulu
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique, vamps, chords, slide
History of slack key
Learn lyrics for Healoha No ‘O Honolulu
Work on accompaniment for Kane‘ohe

WEEKS 7-8  Practice tablature for Healoha No ‘O Honolulu
Slack key skills: vamps, slide, bar technique
Learn lyrics for Healoha No ‘O Honolulu
Work on converting from Taro Patch to Maunaloa (C 6th) Tuning
Start practicing tablature for Salomila

WEEKS 9-10 Practice tablature for Salomila
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique, vamps, chords
Learn lyrics for Salomila
Work on converting from Maunaloa (C 6th)
Overview

WEEKS 11-12  Practice tablature for Salomila
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique,
vamps, chords
Learn lyrics for Salomila
Work on accompaniment for Salomila
Start practicing tablature for Moana Chimes

WEEKS 13-14  Practice tablature for Moana Chimes
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique,
harmonics, vamps, chords
Work on converting from Taro Patch to
Maunaloa (C 6th) Tuning
Work on accompaniment for Moana Chimes
Review for exam

WEEK 15  Practice tablature for Moana Chimes
Slack key skills: left and right hand technique,
harmonics, vamps, chords
Review for exam
Perform two (2) slack key solos (one solo for each of the
tunings learned in the course)
In-class Exam: ____ May. 13 (TH) 1:30 - 3:20 p.m.____

IMPORTANT DATES:

1. Date of in-class exam: ____ May 13 (TH)
2. Date of performance of in-class slack key solos: May 13 (TH)
Schedule of Weekly Performances

Week 2:  (Jan. 21 – TH)
Play the first 4 staves of Kane‘ohe

Week 4:  (Feb. 04 – TH)
Play the last 4 staves of Kane‘ohe

Week 6:  (Feb. 18 – TH)
Play the first 4 staves of Healoha No ‘O Honolulu

Week 8:  (Mar. 04 – TH)
Play the last 4 staves of Healoha No ‘O Honolulu

Week 10:  (Mar. 18 – TH)
Play the first 4 staves of Salomila

Week 12:  (Apr. 08 – TH)
Play the last 4 staves of Salomila

Week 14:  (Apr. 22 – TH)
Play the first 4 staves of Moana Chimes

Week 15:  (May 06 – TH)
Play the last 4 staves of Moana Chimes