Windward Community College  
MUS 121F: Beginning Slack Key Guitar  
2 credits  
Monday and Wednesday 11:30 – 12:45

INSTRUCTOR: Kamuela Kimokeo
OFFICE HOURS: Monday & Wednesday 8:30-9:50am & 3:45- 4:25pm
OFFICE: Hale A’o 202
TELEPHONE: (808) 206-0655
EMAIL: kamuelam@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2015

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Basic principles of performance; relevant problems in literature. Student learns to play two G tunings. This course is intended for students with little or no background in this style of guitar playing. Ability to read music is not required. (1 hour 50 minute lecture/lab)

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Participation at our Class Concert Date and Time TBA

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of slack key guitar development.

2. Apply knowledge of basic concepts in accurate performances.

3. Use knowledge of slack key techniques and music concepts (music theory) to complete in-class recitals.

4. Perform with growing confidence in class performances.

COURSE TASKS

1. Attendance: The method of teaching is patterned after the oral traditions of Hawaiian history. Traditionally, information was given personally from kumu to haumana or teacher to student. Therefore, all assignments are given in class. Each class is worth 10 points, In order to receive ten points you must have your instrument and be tuned by the time class starts and actively participate throughout the class. Attendance points me be deducted from
individuals who are too distracted whether it is not playing when they should be or too much
time looking at a phone. Anyone who is tardy or who does not have their instrument will
only have the possibility to receive only 5 points for that day. If an absence is excused all 10
points and grading done in class can be made up. Lessons are accumulative and there will be
no time to review in whole what was already explained the previous day. If for whatever
reason you cannot attend class, then it becomes your responsibility to make up for lessons
missed. You may ask fellow class members to help you review the lesson. This is done
outside of class and on your own time. You may also ask me and I will try to make
arrangements to help you during my office hours. Please, just come to class.

2. **Oral Report**: An oral report is given on an assigned master slack key artist. This activity
is to help everyone become familiar with prominent people in the slack key community. The
report will be no less than 3 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes. The report should
include the artist’s DOB, where the artist grew up, musical influences, noteworthy
accomplishments, and any other interesting facts worth mentioning. Time is specified and
your report may include any form of media i.e. power point, video, or musical selections.
You will need to hand in a one (1) page outline to me prior to your presentation. As with all
formal public speeches you need to be considerate of your audience. You will be graded on
posture, appearance, clarity, and information disseminated.

3. **Quiz**: There will be a practical quiz after learning critical parts of each song.

4. **Film Response**: These are films to be watched in class. It must be one page and have a
clear perspective on what you found interesting about the film and why you agree or
disagree with what was presented in the video. It needs to be 12 font, double spaced and
three paragraphs only. This is a personal reflection paper and you may use words such as” I
believe,” “I feel” or “I thought”. Papers are due at the beginning of next class after viewing
the film. Please write at the top right corner using single space the following information:

   Name
   MUS 121F
   Film Title

5. **Reflection Papers**: Occasionally you will be given quotes or questions to think about and
reflect on. Your reflections should be one page and give your personal thoughts on the
subject for reflection. It needs to be 12 font, double spaced. Like the film response, this is a
personal reflection paper and you may use words such as” I believe,” “I feel” or “I thought”.
Papers are due at the beginning of the next class. Please write at the top right corner using
single space the following information:

   Name
   MUS 121F
   Reflection #...

5. **Mid-Term Exam**: This exam will be taken in class. The exam will include items of
multiple-choice, true/false, matching, and short answer. This will test your knowledge of
information given from the beginning of the semester up to this point of the semester.
7. **Writing Assignment**: A minimum three (3) page paper on the History of Kī hō'alu is due on the last day of instruction. You must submit the assignment on the deadline. No late exceptions! Paper needs to have a well thought out thesis clearly stated in your introduction. Must be 12 font, double spaced using APA writing style. No handwritten papers please. At least 5 works cited required. Please PROOF-READ and spell-check your paper before clicking “print”.

**In Class Group Performances**: You will be required to perform 6 times throughout the semester with a group of classmates which will be chosen by the teacher. Four of the songs will be from our class repertoire and you will be able to choose the remaining two. For the two songs that your group chooses, it is your group’s responsibility to decide on the arrangements. I will be available to help in the process. Five of the six songs must be Hawaiian and one can be of any genre.

8. **Final**: We will have a final recital as a class. We will perform all of our songs learned throughout the semester. We will perform as a group however you will be graded individually on how well you perform on stage in front of a live audience.

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance (10 pts per class)</td>
<td>280 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 quizzes @ 20 pts. each</td>
<td>140 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Reflection Papers @30 pts. each</td>
<td>90 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Report</td>
<td>75 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Film responses @30 pts each</td>
<td>30 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 In Class Group performances @40 pts each</td>
<td>240 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing assignment 3 pages</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam – Recital</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total for final grade 1,265 pts.

100%- 90%= A; 89%- 80%= B; 79%-70 % = C; 69%- 60%= D; 59%- 0%= F

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

Each student is required to provide an acoustic guitar, Capo and a chromatic tuner for this course. Having a Personal Copy of He Mele Aloha is highly recommended.

**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.*