

## Course Syllabus

<b>Course</b>	Guitar Ensemble
<b>Class Times</b>	Tues & Thurs: 4:00-5:30pm (7 <sup>th</sup> Period)
<b>Location</b>	Room 1
<b>Instructor</b>	Professor Emile Porée
<b>Email</b>	emileporee@icpa-ca.org

### Course Description:

The emphasis of this course will be on performance in various settings including large ensembles, quartets and trios, and solo performances. Students will also develop skills in writing and arranging original music, and music theory. Students will also learn about the history of music, and its role in society.

### Objectives:

Material introduced during this course include:

- Musicianship.
- Proper guitar technique.
- How to present informed and creatively expressive performances of literature for guitar ensemble.
- Ensemble mechanics and rehearsal techniques.

\*Students are expected to work towards mastery of the material introduced in class during allotted practice time in class as well as outside of class.

### Student Assessment and Evaluation:

Grades will be calculated based on the following criteria:

- Rehearsals will be graded weekly, averaged, and combined with concert performance grades to produce a semester score. The first rehearsal of each semester is used to define objectives, discuss priorities, test reading skills, and set goals. Grades are based on degree of improvement, quality of preparation, amount of material covered, attendance, and, how effectively the semester goals are realized. The grade 'A' indicates exceptional work; 'B' indicates progress.
- It is assumed that ensemble parts will be practiced and carefully considered. I am fairly adept at knowing whether or not parts have been practiced. I can also tell the difference between a nervous student struggling to play something they have practiced and a student that is really unprepared. If a student comes to ensemble unprepared they will be sent to the practice room to work on the assignment. Three or more unprepared rehearsals lowers your semester grade by one letter.
- Audio (or video) recordings form the primary measurement of your outside preparation. Weekly recordings constitute 50% of your weekly ensemble grade. I fully expect your recordings to reflect your struggles, abilities, and level of familiarity with the literature. If you have not had the literature for very long, your recordings will reflect that. If you are not an experienced player, your recordings will reflect that. Your recordings may sound very rough when you first receive your assignments, and that is perfectly fine. They allow us to target your difficulties and work to resolve them. If you fail to submit your recordings, I must assume that you

failed to practice your literature. And much worse, it impedes my ability to quickly diagnose your problem areas and help you overcome them.

- The semester grade will be lowered by one letter for each unexcused absence or three tardies. Missing a required concert results in a failing grade. Demerits lower the final grade by 1%.

## Materials:

Suggested Materials for this course include:

- A quality instrument - Ideally a classical/acoustic guitar and a versatile electric with humbucking pickups.
- Suggested Accessories: footstool, small music stand, concert attire, metronome, nail care kit (diamond file, replacement nails, silk mesh, and superglue), cables, recording device (mp3 preferred for Dropbox), effects pedals, amplifier, and picks.

## Credo:

- The study of music demands, as do all the arts, not only natural ability and talents, but also More importantly dedication, sacrifice, self-discipline, inquisitiveness, and the unrelenting desire to achieve excellence. Success requires all of these attributes. Natural ability is not a substitute for any other component. In fact, natural ability often unfairly enjoys the credit earned by hard work and dedication. It is assumed that music students are here to get the most from the Conservatory of Music, its faculty, and resources, and, that music students will work consistently towards advancement in all areas, including those required outside the field of music.