

Music 14,16,18 Course Syllabus  
Beginning Guitar 1.5 units  
Instructors: Eric Peter/Dave Elke  
email: Eric Peter:peterer@butte.edu Dave Elke:dave@delke.com

Music 14 is a course designed to provide students with basic guitar playing techniques including open chords, scales, strumming and finger picking styles. There will be lectures on tuning, standard musical notation and guitar tab. Since skills/proficiencies are enhanced by supervised repetition and practice, this course may be repeated one time.

General methods of instruction include lecture, demonstration, group and individual participation, handouts, listening to CD's, watching videos and working with the class book. Students will be required to practice 3-5 hours a week to keep up with pace of lecture material and group performances. Students may also need to meet with their groups outside of class for practice time.

**General Goals:**

1. Students will develop an understanding of basic guitar playing skills and musical fundamentals.
2. Students will develop an ability to play first position melody and accompaniment.
3. Students will develop an appreciation and enjoyment of guitar music.

**General Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of the course a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate basic guitar fundamentals such as tuning, reading chord charts, tab and note names on the fingerboard.
2. Perform proper left and right hand techniques.
3. Demonstrate the rudiments of standard musical notation, major scales, and basic rhythm accompaniment.
4. Participate in solo/ensemble performance.

**Materials:**

1. An acoustic guitar in playable condition.
2. Picks and tuner, Metronome is recommended.
3. Book: . – A Modern Method for Guitar, Volume 1 by William Leavitt. Berklee Press, ISBN 0-87639-014-9

**Grades:**

*30 points:* **Research Paper and Presentation.**

The Research Paper should be 3 pages, in essay style. Students will pick a guitarist of their choice, or one suggested by instructor and report on the artists biographical information, and musical style/techniques. Students will be expected to recognize and analyze key aspects of playing style, career achievements, and personal background information of their chosen artist. Pictures may be included as long as they don't take up to much space.

The Presentation should be a minimum of 10 minutes long. Students will write an outline of their research paper which will organize their main points to be covered in the presentation. Students should discuss playing style and techniques and demonstrate these techniques by playing a complete song or a section of a song by their

artist. Students must supply all classmates and instructor the music notation or tab for the song they demonstrate. They should also examine the artist's influences, career achievements, and body of work. Video clips, audio CD's and/or online resources should be used in the presentation. Designing a Power Point presentation is encouraged as it helps organize the presentation.

*20 points: **Two Quizzes***- These will be one on one tests where the student demonstrates their ability to play material covered in class, and sections covered in the class book.

*20 points: **Two in-class performances***- These will be solo or group performances of songs covered in class, or acquired by the student (with instructor approval).

*20 points: **Final Performance***- This will be a performance of a solo or group piece in front of the class. Students may choose their own song to perform, and instructor will assist students in learning to play their song. Students are responsible for finding the music notation or tab of their song, and bringing to class an audio version of the song. The song should be one at the student's current level of ability, and demonstrate the techniques acquired in class.

*10 points: **Attendance/Participation***.

*\*Note: Instructor may drop students who do not show up to class, but it is the student's responsibility to drop a class they do not intend to finish. Failure to do so may result in a Failing grade and affect the student's GPA.*

## **BUTTE COLLEGE ATTENDANCE POLICY/ACADEMIC HONESTY/ACCOMMODATIONS**

### A. Butte College Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance in all Butte College courses is crucial to doing well. During the first two weeks of regular term courses, attendance will be taken and a student may be dropped for lack of attendance to accommodate others seeking to add.

Between the third and the eighth week of instruction, dropping the class is the student's responsibility. After the eighth week, a student will receive a letter grade for the class unless he or she can demonstrate a serious and compelling reason for withdrawing from class.

See your course syllabus for an individual instructor's specific policies and for the drop date in short-term or irregular courses. Roll will be taken for all positive attendance courses.

#### Attending the first class session

Because of the many students trying to add classes after school starts, instructors may drop "no shows" to the first class session in order to make room for others. If you can't make the first class, call the department secretary or the Off-Campus Center or bring a note to be placed in the instructor's mailbox before school starts.

Explain your situation and request that the instructor not drop you from the class. Doing this will not guarantee that you won't be dropped, but your chances will be considerably improved.

### B. DROPPING OR WITHDRAWING FROM COURSES

Students dropping courses during the first four weeks of instruction of a semester or the first 25% of an irregular term course will result in the courses not appearing on their transcripts.

Students may withdraw from courses during the fifth through eighth weeks (or second 25% of an irregular term course) and "W" grades will appear for the courses on their transcripts.

During the eighth week through the twelfth week, (or third 25% of an irregular term course), students will need to identify "serious and compelling" reasons (see definition below) for withdrawing from classes. They will need to obtain the signature of the course instructor.

After the instructor's signature has been obtained, the completed withdrawal card will need to be submitted to the Admissions and Records Office for processing. Then the late withdrawal will be granted. The date the student submits the card to the Admissions & Records Office will be the official date of withdrawal.

1. **Withdrawal from all classes.**

Students needing to withdraw from all their classes after the withdrawal deadline, may choose to have an exit interview with a college counselor. Permission may be granted for students to withdraw late from all their classes with the counselor's signature.

Prior to granting late withdrawals for students enrolled in specialized vocational programs (e.g., Construction Inspection, Nursing, Police Academy, etc.) counselors will contact the respective departments regarding the students' status.

**The following situations may reasonably be defined as "serious and compelling" for justifying late withdrawal:**

- a. An extended absence due to a verifiable accident, illness, or personal problem; for example, a one or two week absence with a doctor's written excuse.
- b. An extended absence due to a death in the family. This applies to absences exceeding a week due to family affairs that must be attended to by the student.
- c. A necessary change in employment status which interferes with the student's ability to attend class.  
This change in status must be verified in writing by the student's employer.
- d. Other unusual or very special cases, to be considered on their own merit.

**The following situations would NOT fall under the intent of "serious and compelling":**

- a. Grade anticipated in class not sufficiently high or student is doing failing work.
- b. Failure to attend class, complete assignments or take a test.
- c. Dissatisfaction with course material, instructional method or instructor.
- d. Class is harder than expected.
- e. Pressure of other classes, participation in social activities or simple lack of motivation.
- f. Change of major.

-2-

2. **Withdrawal from classes during the final four weeks:** During the final four weeks of instruction a "W" can be assigned only in cases such as an accident or serious illness when the need for withdrawal is due to circumstances beyond the student's control and an assignment of an incomplete (I) is not practical. The student will need to obtain the instructor's signature(s) and submit the drop card with a completed Academic Council Petition to the Counseling Office. If the student is unable to complete the paperwork for her/himself, it can be done for them by the Student Services Office with documentation of the respective accident or serious illness.

3. **Short-term classes drop/withdrawal timelines:**

"DR" Grade - first 25% of the course. "W" Grade – second 25% of the course.  
"Serious and Compelling" - third 25% of the course. Academic Council (end of term)  
– fourth and last 25% of the course.

**C. Butte College Plagiarism/Cheating Policy: 3.21 Student Rights and Conduct**

The board recognizes that as citizens of the Butte-Glenn Community College District, students are free, individually and collectively, to express their interests. However, these privileges carry with them an obligation to respect the rights and privileges of others, as well as any obligation to abide by the rules and regulations set down by the College, its various agencies, and agents.

The Superintendent/President is authorized to suspend any student for good cause for an indefinite period of time as prescribed by code. The Board of Trustees will be annually apprised of any student suspensions.

In order to protect student rights and insure appropriate student conduct, the Superintendent is directed to develop appropriate procedures to implement this policy.

**Administrative Procedure: 3.21 Students Rights and Conduct**

Disciplinary action involving students is primarily the responsibility of the Dean of Student Services. Disciplining students is a means of protecting the rights and privileges of each member of the campus community, as well as protecting College property.

The procedures described herein are designed to protect students from the imposition of unfair disciplinary action. It is the right of every student to request due process. In order to file an appeal against disciplinary action, the individual must be currently enrolled or must have been enrolled at the time of the alleged violation.

**D. Grounds for Disciplinary Action:**

As legally required, students are advised that the following behavior will constitute good and sufficient cause for disciplinary action to be initiated.

1. **Dishonesty:** such as cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the College.  
(Butte College Student Handbook)

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Butte College complies with all Federal and State rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, or disability. Harassment of any employee or student is strictly prohibited. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to our Title IX Officer and Section 504/ADA Coordinator: Allen Renville, Vice President of Student Services, Butte Community College, 3536 Butte Campus Drive, Oroville, CA 95965.

**Academic Accommodations:** If you believe that you may need an accommodation in this course because of a disability, please notify your instructor immediately and make an appointment during office hours. Although not required, if you have a permanent or temporary disability you are encouraged to contact the Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) located in Quad 2 on the main campus. DSPS may be able to provide you with appropriate and reasonable accommodations, adjustments, or services to mitigate the effects of your disability in this course. An appointment with DSPS can be scheduled by calling 895-2455 [voice] or 895-2308 [TTY] or email at [dsps@butte.edu](mailto:dsps@butte.edu). The DSPS office is open M-F, 8am–4pm.

**Alternate Media**

This publication is available in alternate media. Students with a print disability — **a visual limitation or reading difficulty that limits access to traditional print material** — caused by a learning disability, blindness, disease, medication, or physical condition may request printed materials in an alternate media format, with appropriate documentation of disability. Examples of alternate media formats include: e-text (e.g., text on CD), audiotape, MP3 file, large print, tactile graphics, and Braille. Contact DSPS for alternate media requests by calling 895-2455 [voice] or 895-2308 [TTY] or email at [dsps@butte.edu](mailto:dsps@butte.edu). The DSPS office is open M-F, 8am–4pm.