

# **Private Banjo Instruction Syllabus**

**MUSP 1128**

**Applied Commercial Music: Banjo**

**Commercial Music Program**

**Creative Arts Department**

**Technical Education Division**

**Levelland Campus**

**South Plains College**

## SCANS COMPETENCIES

### RESOURCES - Identifies, organizes, plans and allocates resources.

- C-1 A TIME –Selects goal – relevant activity, ranks them allocates time, and prepares and follows schedules.
- C-2 MONEY - Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records, and makes adjustments to meet objectives
- C-3 MATERIALS & FACILITIES - Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently.
- C-4 HUMAN RESOURCES – Assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performances and provides feedback

### INFORMATION – Acquires and Uses Information

- C-5 Acquires and evaluates information.
- C-6 Organizes and maintains information
- C-7 Interprets and communicates information.
- C-8 Uses computers to Process information.

### INTERPERSONAL - Works with others

- C-9 Participates as members of a team and contributes to group effort.
- C-10 Teaches others new skills
- C-11 Serves clients/customers – works to satisfy customer’s expectations
- C-12 Exercises leadership – communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies
- C-13 Negotiates – Works toward agreements involving exchanges of resources resolves divergent interests
- C-14 Works with Diversity – Works well with men and women from diverse backgrounds

### SYSTEMS – Understands Complex Interrelationships

- C-15 Understands Systems – Knows how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operates effectively with them
- C-16 Monitors and Correct Performance – Distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses systems performance and corrects malfunctions
- C-17 Improves or Designs Systems – Suggests modifications to existing systems and develops new or alternative systems to improve performance

### TECHNOLOGY – Works with a variety of technologies

- C-18 Selects Technology – Chooses procedures, tools, or equipment including computers and related technologies
- C-19 Applies Technology to Task-Understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment
- C-20 Maintains and Troubleshoots Equipment – Prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

## FOUNDATION SKILLS

### BASIC SKILLS – Reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks

- F-1 Reading – locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules
- F-2 Writing – Communicates thoughts, ideas, information and messages in writing, and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts
- F-3 Arithmetic – Performs basic computations, uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.
- F-4 Mathematics – Approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques
- F-5 Listening – Receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues
- F-6 Speaking – Organizes ideas and communicates orally

### THINKING SKILLS – Thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, and knows how to learn and reason

- F-7 Creative Thinking – Generates new ideas
- F-8 Decision Making – Specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, and evaluates and chooses best alternative
- F-9 Problem Solving – Recognizes problems and devises and implements plan of action
- F-10 Seeing Things in the Minds Eye – Organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects and other information
- F-11 Knowing How to Learn – Uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills
- F-12 Reasoning – Discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem

### PERSONAL QUALITIES – Displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity and honesty

- F-13 Responsibility – Exerts a high level of effort and preservers towards goal attainment
- F-14 Self-Esteem - Believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self
- F-15 Sociability – Demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings
- F-16 Self-Management – Assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control
- F-17 Integrity/Honesty – Chooses ethical courses of action.

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## Course Title: MUSP 1128 – Applied Commercial Music: Banjo

### Private Music Lessons in the Commercial Music Department –

Private instruction in musical instruments/voice is open to all South Plains College students, but those seeking the A.A.A. Degree, or Certificate in Commercial Music, may be subject to additional departmental requirements (see *Barrier Exams I & II*, and *Capstone Experience* – below).

## MUSP 1128 –Applied Commercial Music: Banjo

### South Plains College Improves Each Student’s Life

#### I. General Course Information:

- A. Description: Private instruction in Banjo with goals related to commercial music.

Note: The student will have one hour of private instruction per week during which time the instructor will guide and monitor the student’s daily practice. The remaining 3.0 **lab** hours per week are guided study under the supervision of the instructor, and will be specific to the particular instrument or voice.

- B. Course Learning Outcomes: Demonstrate proficiency in commercial music repertoire and technique; develop a professional disciplined approach to performance skills; and present a juried performance for faculty.

The student will demonstrate proficiency in banjo *technique, theory, notation, ear training, and repertoire*; develop a disciplined professional approach to performance skills; and perform a mid-term and final exam (or jury – see below).

- C. Course Competencies: Departmental **Competency Standards** have been developed as guidelines for those seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in Commercial Music. However, these are a technical “base-line” only and may not constitute total compliance with class assignments.

*Juries* –A jury is a cumulative final exam over the course of study. The instructor shall determine the membership of the jury.

- D. Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. Students should refer to the SPC General Catalog, pg. 22-23; regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism (see “Academic Integrity” as well as “Student Conduct” sections).

- E. SCANS COMPETENCIES: C – 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15, 18, 19

FOUNDATION SKILLS: F – 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

- F. Verification of Workplace Competencies: Successful completion of this course will equip the student with many of the skills necessary to complete the Capstone Experience (presented at the end of the second semester of study for certificate candidates and at the end of the fourth semester of study for degree candidates).

*Capstone Experience*: Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in Commercial Music must satisfactorily complete specific requirements 1] As a performer in a full-length televised public performance (music festival), and 2] by passing all applicable Barrier Exams.

These festivals occur twice a year (once at the completion of the fall and spring semesters).

*Barrier Exam I*: Students seeking the Certificate in Commercial Music must pass a test of minimum performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

*Barrier Exam II*: Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree in Commercial Music must pass a test of minimum advanced performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

Standards for the Barrier Exams shall be determined and published by the faculty. In all cases, the standards under which a student matriculates will remain in force, unless the student chooses to accept the current standard instead.

#### II. Specific Course/Instructor Requirements:

- A. The instructor will select textbook and other materials appropriate texts and materials.
- B. Attendance Policy: After missing three unexcused lessons, the student’s grade will be lowered one letter grade for each subsequent absence. The instructor will determine the validity (with respect to this course) of each excuse.

- C. Lab hours may consist of rehearsals, concerts and workshops and other activities deemed appropriate by the instructor. Teachers may substitute “directed” study activities for these events for students who cannot attend on-campus events. Attendance forms and credit descriptions may be acquired from your instructor.
- D. Assignment Policy: Each lesson will begin with a review of the material assigned at the previous lesson. Each lesson will conclude with a brief summary of the new material and the assignment for the next lesson. A daily numerical grade will be assigned by the instructor based on his evaluation of the student’s accomplishment of the assigned goals. Also, see [E.] below.

Students enrolled in Commercial Music Ensembles are required to take private instrument/voice lessons (waiver subject to the discretion of the department head). This enables the student to gain advantage from the teacher’s ensemble experience.

- E. Grading Policy/Procedure: The final grade will be constituted as follows:
  - An average of daily grades. 30%
  - An average of lab hour credits 10%
  - A midterm exam 30%
  - A final exam or jury 30%

The instructor may excuse absences, but assignments will not be accepted late. Generally, letter grades are assigned as follows: A: 90-100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69, F: Below 60.

- F. Special Requirements: There are no specific entry-level standards for this course. All private lesson students will be working toward specific competencies outlined in the course of study designed by the teacher for their specific level of ability. However, students working toward the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in Commercial Music must pass the required departmental Barrier Exam(s) – see above. Students should seek advice from instructors as to their status with respect to these tests.
- G. Cell phones are prohibited in the classroom. One class disruption will be allowed. After that, a student whose phone rings or who is caught texting will receive a 0 for the day and be asked to remove themselves from class.
- H. Should a epidemic arise, such as swine flu, any student feeling ill or running a fever of 99 or above is prohibited from attending class until 24 hours after the fever has been absent. The instructor will make every attempt to provide online work or extra bookwork to make up for the absence.

### III. Course Outline:

#### *Outline by Topic:*

The depth of exploration into each area will be determined by the instructor, based on the student’s individual level of ability, the student’s expressed musical goals, and the specific requirements shown on the attached Voice Competency list.

**Technique:** systematic study of best practices pertaining to the instrument or voice

**Theory:** Knowledge of theoretical concepts as they apply to the instrument or voice.

**Notation:** Reading standard musical notation and recognizing and understanding the Nashville numbering system and standard chord symbols.

**Ear Training:** Guidance toward greater aural skills in recognizing ensemble textures and melodic and harmonic pitches.

**Improvisation:** Development and application of skills.

**Repertoire:** Demonstrate the ability to perform prepared pieces in a nearly perfect manner commensurate with skill level.

#### *Outline by Week:*

Week 1 – Assess the student’s current competency and experience.

Weeks 2 – 6 – Follow course outline as indicated above. Give special emphasis to areas of special interest and/or difficulty to student. Prepare for upcoming exam or jury.

Week 7 – Perform midterm exam.

Weeks 8 – 15 – Follow similar curriculum to weeks 2-6

Week 16 – Perform jury

### IV. Accommodations

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age (SPC Equal Opportunity Policy—General Catalog).

### V. Disabilities

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health

## **VI. Diversity**

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

## **VII. Injury Or Illness Addendum**

In the event that you are injured or are ill, creating a situation where you cannot perform for an extended period, it is agreed that the student will drop this course if the instructor deems it appropriate.

## **Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness, Phone: 806.716.2362 Email: [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu)

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College

Consistent with the latest CDC recommendations, we have revised our guidance for students, faculty, and staff who have a known exposure or have tested positive. Anyone with a known exposure should wear a mask for 10 days and should seek a COVID-19 test on day five after exposure. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you should immediately self-isolate and seek a COVID-19 test. Please immediately notify your instructor, supervisor, and DeEtte Edens, Associate Director of Health and Wellness, any time you test positive for COVID-19. Anyone who tests positive is required to self-isolate for five days. Following the five-day isolation period, if you are asymptomatic or your symptoms are resolving, you may return to work or class but should wear a mask for five additional days. If you are still symptomatic, please contact DeEtte Edens at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376 prior to your return date.

## STUDENT CONTRACT

### Creative Arts Department Commercial Music Private Instrument

As stated in the private lesson syllabi:

“...those seeking degrees under the Creative Arts Department may be subject to additional curricular Requirements, including completion of a Capstone Experience.”

[Sec. I, C.]

Course competencies:

**Departmental Competency Standards** have been developed as guidelines for those seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in commercial Music. However, these are a technical “base-line” only and may not constitute total compliance with class assignments.

**Juries** –A jury is a cumulative final exam over the course of study. The instructor shall determine the membership of the jury.

[Sec. I, F.]

**Verification of Workplace Competencies:** Successful completion of this course will equip the student with many of the skills necessary to complete the Capstone Experience (presented at the end of the second semester of study for certificate candidates and at the end of the fourth semester of study for degree candidates).

**Capstone Experience:** Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in Commercial Music must satisfactorily complete all departmental requirements as a musical performer in a full-length televised public performance (music festival). These festivals occur twice a year (once at the completion of the fall and spring semesters).

**Barrier Exam I:** Students seeking the Certificate in Commercial Music or seeking to advance to Level II courses, must pass a test of minimum performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

**Barrier Exam II:** Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree in commercial Music must pass a test of minimum advanced performance standards, administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

Standards for the Barrier Exams shall be determined and published by the faculty. In all cases, the standards under which a student matriculates will remain in force, unless the student chooses to accept the current standard instead.

[Sec. I, A.]

**Lab Hours:** Remaining lab hours per syllabi are guided study hours per week, outside of actual private lesson times, during which time the instructor may require outside activities such as, but not limited to rehearsals, concerts, workshops and other activities deemed appropriate by the instructor. Teachers may substitute “directed” study activities for these events for students who cannot attend on-campus events. Attendance forms and credit descriptions may be acquired from your instructor.

In signing this document, I affirm that these policies affect my status as a student.

[Initial \_\_\_\_\_]

I understand that, in order for this course to count toward the completion of a Commercial Music Certificate or Degree Plan, I must satisfy other requirements **outside and beyond the scope of this course.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

<b>STUDENT CONTRACT</b>
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**Creative Arts Department  
Commercial Music  
Private Instrument**

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Student Information Form</b>
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**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Major:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Primary Instrument:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Music Preference:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Musical Experience and Former Training:** \_\_\_\_\_

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