

Play and Teach Guitar and Ukulele

Pre-Assignment

Hi there! I'm Kevin Hanson, instructor of the guitar and ukulele Continuing Ed class this summer. The class is a lot of fun. We will learn basic techniques for playing and teaching. It can be a little challenging, mostly for your fingertips. Some of you are already somewhat accomplished guitarists. No problem. There are lessons available to appeal to all levels of playing.

WHAT TO BRING:

-Guitar

-Picks

-Tuner (optional - only if you have one. it can make your life easier) Here's a very popular brand: [https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/SnarkST-2--snark-st-2-clip-on-super-tight-chromatic-all-instrument-tuner?](https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/SnarkST-2--snark-st-2-clip-on-super-tight-chromatic-all-instrument-tuner?mrkgcl=28&mrkgadid=3248788743&rkq_id=0&product_id=SnarkST-2&campaigntype=shopping&campaign=aaShopping%2520-%2520Core%2520-%2520Guitars&adgroup=Guitars%2520-%2520Guitar%2520Accessories&placement=google&adpos=1o2&creative=226299461162&device=c&matchtype=&network=g&gclid=EAIAIqobChMI5Oyo18vz2gIVCmSGCh2fTwC-EAQYAIABEgL_CfD_BwE)

[mrkgcl=28&mrkgadid=3248788743&rkq_id=0&product_id=SnarkST-2&campaigntype=shopping&campaign=aaShopping%2520-%2520Core%2520-%2520Guitars&adgroup=Guitars%2520-%2520Guitar%2520Accessories&placement=google&adpos=1o2&creative=226299461162&device=c&matchtype=&network=g&gclid=EAIAIqobChMI5Oyo18vz2gIVCmSGCh2fTwC-EAQYAIABEgL_CfD_BwE\)](https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/EJ11--daddario-ej11-80-20-bronze-light-acoustic-strings)

-Fresh pack of strings (I will go over which brand and how to change strings in class. For most acoustic steel string guitars , these are perfect: <https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/EJ11--daddario-ej11-80-20-bronze-light-acoustic-strings>

The best way to prepare for this class is to develop a bit of tough skin (calluses) on the fingertips of your left hand (unless you play a left-handed guitar, in which case, develop calluses on your right hand.) This can be achieved by playing guitar and/or uke for just a few minutes per day. Five minutes in the morning and five minutes at night ought to do it. We will learn how to play using a pick (see link below). We will learn how to play finger style as well. For the first couple weeks, your fingers will be sore! This is normal.

We will learn a combination of reading traditional notation and TAB. TAB is short for tablature, a system where numbers that represent frets on the guitar are drawn onto lines that represent the strings. Here are a few YouTube links to get you started:

How to hold a pick: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JBxNFEg0nU>

Beginning Happy Birthday: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35pI-MrsdKo>

Mary Had A Little Lamb: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxnhWcKZW_c

Beginning Chords: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBz-Jyr23M4>

The more guitar videos/articles/books you can check out, the better. If you have friends and family that play, watch them play and ask for pointers. So much can be learned from watching the way someone holds the guitar, hold a picks, positions their hands, etc. I will provide all of the instruction materials you will need for class. If you have a clip on tuner, please bring it. If you have books or materials you've work with before, feel free to bring them with your class.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at khanson@uarts.edu. You can also check out my website at kevinhansonmusic.com

I'm very much looking forward to meeting you all and having a wonderful class this summer.

See you soon,

Kevin