

Graduate Course Number: 7002

Course Title: A Complete Guide to Playing and Teaching the Ukulele\_\_\_\_\_

Days/Times of Class Meetings: Online

Number of Credits for the course: 3

Instructor with phone number, email address, and office hours: Kalani Das

818-271-1054

kalanidas@gmail.com

Zoom Office Hours Available at Student Request

“This Syllabus is a general outline of the course and is subject to change upon notification to the students during a regular class session.”

Student Engagement Statement: Students are expected to communicate in a collegial fashion with the instructor and classmates. They are expected to complete playing and writing assignments in a timely fashion in order to post responses by the due dates posted on the course site. It is also expected that students will inform the instructor as soon as possible if facilitation or accommodations for learning or scheduling reasons are needed. This is a tightly scheduled 8 week course.

Course Description: The ukulele has become one of the most popular instruments in music education, and with good reason: It's inexpensive, portable and user-friendly for both teachers and students. This course covers everything you'll need to know to start using the ukulele in your classroom, including uke anatomy, tuning, types and features, how to read chord diagrams, strumming patterns, popular chords and chord progressions. Suitable for absolute beginners through intermediate players.

<b><u>Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>	<b><u>Outcomes Assessments</u></b>
<p>Students will be able to:</p> <p>Perform a variety of chords, strums, and chord progressions on the ukulele.</p> <p>Accompany several songs, in a variety of styles, at performance tempo.</p> <p>Write several melodies using traditional and TAB notation.</p> <p>Design a sample curriculum with no fewer than three complete lesson plans.</p> <p>Discuss and debate strategies and approaches to teaching the ukulele.</p>	<p>Students will successfully complete at least two quizzes, demonstrating knowledge of the subject.</p> <p>Students will complete a variety of playing assignments, designed to show musical competence.</p> <p>Students will participate in numerous discussions, sharing opinions, questions, and thoughts as pertaining to the learning and teaching of the ukulele and related music.</p> <p>Students will perform, record, and share several audio examples of their playing, giving feedback to their peers, with a view to deepening their skills and helping classmates.</p>

**Program-Level Outcomes Addressed:** Excellence in Music- Candidates will explore more deeply the culturally and historically important aspects of music, musicians, and composers throughout the world and across time. Students will demonstrate the ability to: Recognize style traits of various composers, genres, and periods; Identify major and transitional composers in a variety of styles, genres, and periods; Learn or review and apply new techniques to perform in a style appropriate to genre, style, period, and culture, Strength in Character- Candidates will develop new approaches to the praxis of teaching by learning about, experiencing, and using best practice techniques as borne out in proven traditional practices and those demonstrated as effective through current research. Students will demonstrate the ability to: Discuss a variety of educational approaches; Describe why particular educational approaches are chosen for use; Choose and apply new approaches to the teaching praxis.

**Course Requirements and Assessment:**

**Part I**

- Parts of the Ukulele
- Numbering System
- One-finger chords (C7, easy F, A7, Am), plus easy E7
- Songs with one chord and I-V7

**Part II**

- The C-pentatonic scale.
- Basic and Stylized Strums
- Reading Melodies in ukulele TAB
- Notating Melodies with ukulele TAB.

**Part III**

- The C, F, easy D7, Dm, G7 and E7 chords.
- I-V7, I-IV-V7, and I-ii-IV-I chord progressions
- Songs using the I-IV-V7 chords
- 12-Bar blues in A and G

**Unit I Quiz (10 multiple-choice questions)**

**Unit II**

**Part I**

- I-V7 songs in different keys and language.
- I-IV-V7 songs in a variety of styles and languages.
- The 50's and POP chord progressions.

**Part II**

- The D major and D7 bar-chord.
- The vi-V-IV-III7 (Andalusian) chord progression.
- The Aloha Song, Aloha Oe
- Songs for holidays and celebration.

**Part III**

- Learn the Bb, B7, and Bm bar-chords.
- Play chordal accompaniment and solo over the 12-bar Blues.
- Notate a melody using ukulele TAB.

**Unit II Quiz (10 Multiple-Choice Questions)**

**Unit III**

**Part I**

- Learn the Em chord and integrate into chord progressions.
- Learn several songs that include a range of chords/styles and applications.
- Perform a task-analysis for a selected song.

**Part II**

- Develop lesson plans and curriculum.
- Select songs for a virtual concert.

**Part III**

- Complete ukulele curriculum.

- Participate in virtual concert.
- Participate in class video performance of The Aloha Song.

Grading Breakdown: Assignments: 50%  
Participation/Discussion: 30%  
Quizzes: 20%

Instructional Materials: Ukulele Club Multimedia Resource (Text with Audio and Video)

Course Bibliography: N/A

Course Calendar or Schedule: Online

Attendance Policy: Online

#### Candidate Conduct

***“An important part of VanderCook’s Conceptual Framework and Candidate Dispositions and Outcomes is the focus on professionalism and character. Specific descriptors include participation as well as attendance, flexibility in the face of changing circumstances and institutional needs, the commitment to continual personal development, self-reflection and growth, respect for the academic community and the individuals and resources of that community, and behavior, speech and dress that is appropriate and respectful in the educational environment. Failure to observe standards of professional behavior may result in referral to the Standards Committee and/or the appropriate dean. Consistent concerns in this area will have an impact on successful completion of the program.”***

- Cell Phone/Computer Policy: N/A (Online course)

#### Health and Safety

VanderCook College of Music is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Basic information regarding the maintenance of health and safety within the contexts of practice, performance, teaching and listening is provided throughout the academic year. Health and safety information specific to this course will be addressed. It is the responsibility of each individual musician to take an active role in making informed decisions to help maintain their own health and safety.

#### Academic Honesty

“Candidates are expected to maintain the highest standards of integrity in their academic work. Failure to do so will jeopardize a candidate’s success in the program. Examples of academic dishonesty include:

- Presenting another’s words, music, or concepts as your own by failing to acknowledge or properly cite the source.
- Communicating or receiving answers or information to/from another in a testing situation.
- Consulting notes or any other source of answers/information in a testing situation, unless the instructor authorizes such access.

- Making available or accessing tests or quizzes from current or previous classes unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Bringing, by any means, answers or information into a testing situation except as explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Collaborating or turning in jointly produced work on any test or assignment that is intended to reflect individual effort.”

### Plagiarism

“Plagiarism means taking someone else’s words, ideas, data or work and presenting them as your own. This could mean an exact duplication of someone else’s work without proper citation of the source, or it could mean you present it with only small changes and do not cite the source. Plagiarism can occur in art, music, literature, or technology – really in any area of intellectual work.

All work submitted should be properly credited to the original source of the information or idea whether the source is a book, Internet site, article, or any other medium. In written work, quotation marks or block indentations show direct quotations and the source must be cited. If information that is not common knowledge is paraphrased or summarized from a source, that source (including websites) must be cited. Failure to do so in academic assignments represents cheating and carries the appropriate penalties.

Copyright compliance is the goal of VanderCook College. Information to help with clarification of what constitutes fair use of copyrighted material, including photocopying, is on permanent reserve in the Ruppel Library.

No candidate should expect to receive a passing grade on any test or assignment that reflects dishonesty or academic irregularity. Cheating in any form may result in failure of the class and academic expulsion.”

### Disability Statement

“If a student has a disability which might interfere with that student’s ability to function in this course it is the responsibility of that student to notify the instructor at the beginning of the course.”