



## MUSC 1306

**Division:** Fine Arts

**Department:** Music

**Course:** MUSC 1306

**Title:** Jazz Improvisation

**Catalog Description:**

This course is designed to teach musicians the basics of jazz improvisation with regards to the performance and understanding of historical jazz vocabulary, chord/scale relationships, rhythmic interaction within a small group, stylistic concepts of melody interpretation, and the rhythmic invention of scales. Exercises will include performing required scales in a variety of rhythms, performing major and minor ii-V-I jazz vocabulary licks in all twelve keys, performing required jazz standards by memory, and transcribing and performing an historical jazz solo.

**General Education Requirements:** N/A

**Semesters Offered:** Fall, Spring

**Credit/Time Requirement:** Credit: 1; Lecture: 0; Lab: 1

**Clock/Hour Requirements:** 0

**Offered for Non-Credit:** No

**Justification:**

This type of course is being offered at most of the four-year institutions in the State of Utah and is a regular course offering throughout the country. It is usually offered as part of a student's music major elective courses at institutions where there is no specified major in jazz studies and as a major course at institutions where there is a major in jazz studies. This course will transfer as elective and/or major credit

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

\* Students will perform a Blues Scales in all 12 keys using said rhythm.\* Students will perform 3 standard jazz vocabulary licks in all 12 keys.\* Students will write out and perform 20 standard jazz vocabulary licks 80 points (This will be a ii-V-I portfolio that students create for future study of jazz vocabulary).\* Scale Test (Major, Dorian Minor, and Bebop).\* Students will learn 4 Jazz Standard Melodies memorized with chords arpeggiated.\* Students will perform a short Transcribed Solo by memory.\* Students will hand in 5 Written Handout Homework Assignments.\* Students will have a midterm and final playing evaluation.

**Content:**

Students will study jazz scales, jazz chord symbols, jazz rhythms, and melodic solo devices. Students will study the "jazz vocabulary" of various artist. Students learn ii-V-I vocabulary to aid in improvisation with regards to understanding harmonic resolutions. Students will learn to transcribe a short solo. Students will develop a ii-V-I vocabulary portfolio.

**General Education Outcomes:**

9) Respond with informed sensitivity to an artistic work or experience.

Students will study jazz recordings by legendary artists to gather historical knowledge to develop the musical tools and nuances necessary to improvise in performance. Performances will be critiqued to promote each musician's continued improvement.

**Key Performance Indicators:**

\* Students will perform a Blues Scales in all 12 keys using said rhythm, (6%).\* Students will perform 3 standard jazz vocabulary licks in all 12 keys, (18%).\* Students will write out and perform 20 standard jazz vocabulary licks 80 points, (8%).\* Scale Test (Major, Dorian Minor, and Bebop),(18%).\* Students will learn 4 Jazz Standard Melodies memorized with chords arpeggiated, (8%).\* Students will perform a short Transcribed Solo by memory, (7%).\* Students will hand in 5 Written Handout Homework Assignments, (5%).\* Students will have a midterm and final playing evaluation, (30%).Percentages are approximate.

**Representative Text and/or Supplies:**

The Ultimate Jazz Tool (Scott Wilson). \* The Ultimate Music Workbook (Scott Wilson).

**Optimum Class Size:** 12

**Maximum Class Size:** 20

**Signatures:**

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

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Vance Larsen, MM, Associate Professor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Music Department:

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Steve Meredith, DMA, Associate Professor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Fine Arts Division:

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Vance Larsen, MM, Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

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Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

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Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)