



MUSC 4110

Division: Fine Arts

Department: Music

Course: MUSC 4110

Title: Contemporary Keyboard Harmony

Catalog Description:

This course is intended for students pursuing the Bachelor of Music degree in Commercial Music - Performance and Songwriting/Composition tracks. Students will learn how to compose, arrange and harmonize melodies using modern harmonic techniques. Students will also learn to read modern notation symbols, especially jazz chord symbols.

General Education Requirements: N/A

Semesters Offered: TBA

Credit/Time Requirement: Credit: 3; Lecture: 3; Lab: 0

Clock/Hour Requirements: 0

Offered for Non-Credit: No

Prerequisites: MUSC 3120 or permission of instructor

Justification:

The ability to create harmony at the keyboard is a part of all class piano and piano proficiency requirements for traditional music programs (including similar courses at Snow College). However, the additional focus on contemporary music in the Commercial Music degree requires that students learn additional keyboard skills that focus primarily on jazz and other modern harmonic structure and notation. Courses similar to this one are part of commercial music degree programs at colleges and universities throughout the US.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Compose and perform simple and complex melodies, harmonizing them using contemporary harmony;
- Arrange and perform existing melodies using modern harmony;
- Read and perform a melody, harmonizing it using jazz chord symbols;
- Identify, play and write modern chords, including extensions beyond the 7th;
- Identify, write and construct modern harmony using chord symbols.

Content:

- Lead Sheets
- Chord Symbols
- Rootless voicings

- Diatonic progressions
- Non-diatonic progressions
- Voicing choices based on melody
- Voice leading
- Chord extensions - 9ths, 11ths and 13ths
- Chord substitutions
- Quartal harmony
- Clusters
- Modes

General Education Outcomes:

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

Students completing this course will have the ability to compose, arrange and harmonize, using modern construction. Students will listen to professional examples and the example of peers as part of the assessment process, and will increase their understanding through this process. Students will receive feedback from the instructor during each class session.

Key Performance Indicators:

Students will be assessed using the following methods:

- Participation: Attendance and class participation
- Presentation: In-class recitals
- Exams: Written and playing exams
- Written: Composition and arranging assignments

Representative Text and/or Supplies:

DeGreg, Phil. Jazz Keyboard Harmony. Jamey Aebersold Jazz Publishers. Current edition.

Optimum Class Size: 16

Maximum Class Size: 24

Signatures:

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

Steve Meredith, DMA, Associate Professor

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

Steve Meredith, DMA, Associate Professor, Chair

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

Vance Larsen, MM, Associate Professor, Dean

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

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

Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)