



NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PERF 121 *Jazz Improvisation 1* 15 POINTS

FULL-YEAR 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 16 October 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3 to 19 April 2015

Mid-year break: 2 to 12 July 2015

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 15 November 2015

Study period: 19 to 23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Tuesday, 9:00am–11:50am (Room MUW1C46)

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Mark Donlon

Contact phone: 463 5233 ext 35814 **Email:** mark.donlon@nzsm.ac.nz

Office located at: Room 1D04, Mt Cook Campus

Office hours: By appointment

Programme Administrator: Berys Cuncannon **Email:** berys.cuncannon@nzsm.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Official notices issued after the paper has commenced will be posted on the board outside the NZSM office on the Mt Cook campus. Notices concerning a number of courses will also be posted on Blackboard. The Course Coordinator will specify if Blackboard will be used.

Prescription

Development of the knowledge and skills required for competent jazz improvisation using standard jazz language.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who have successfully completed this course will be able to:

1. demonstrate competency in the theory and application of the principles of jazz improvisation
2. apply prescribed elements of the jazz language to a jazz improvisation
3. play improvised solos over standard forms at a range of tempi using jazz vocabulary appropriate to their instruments
4. transcribe, notate and perform an improvised solo from a given recording.

These learning outcomes contribute to the NZSM Graduate Attributes. For a full list, please see www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/graduate-attributes

Teaching format

This course comprises one 1.5 hour lecture per week.

See attached course syllabus for more information.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- a) pass all items of assessment specified for this course, with a minimum of 50%, on or by the specified dates
- b) attend at least 80% of lectures, tutorials and workshops related to this course unless absence is due to verified medical reasons or advance permission for absence has been given by the teacher/lecturer.

Workload

A 15-point full-year course should require at least 150 hours work (including class time). This means that in term time, the midterm break and study week you should be prepared to spend on average 5 hours per week involved in activities such as attending classes, reading, listening to recommended recordings and preparing assignments.

Assessment

Approved assessment regime

The following assessment regime has been approved by the NZSM Academic Committee:

There are 3 items of assessment:

1. Two practical improvisation tests. Related to learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3. (40%)
2. Transcription. Related to learning outcome 4. (10%)
3. Final improvisation assessment. Related to learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3. (50%)

Assessment details for this offering

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
<i>Practical improvisation assessment 1</i>	20%	1, 2, 3.	5 June 2015
<i>Practical improvisation assessment 2</i>	20%	1, 2, 3.	13 October 2015

<i>Transcription and notation of a set solo</i>	10%	4	25 September 2015
<i>Final practical assessment</i>	50%	1, 2, 3.	15 November 2015

Submission and return of work

Assignments should be deposited in Mark Donlon's mailbox located in the main office at Mt Cook. Marked assignments may be collected for the office.

Assignments will normally be marked and returned within three weeks of submission.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Students, who for exceptional reasons can justify an extension for an item of assessment, must apply to the Course Coordinator *before* the due date. Please note that no extensions can be granted for tutorial assignments.

Penalties

Assignments must be submitted by the due dates. In fairness to other students, unless a medical certificate is produced, assessment submitted after 5pm on the due date will be subject to a 5% demerit on your grade, increasing by 5% each further working day it is overdue.

Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

Students should bring their instruments or in the case of singers, a microphone to classes. Students are advised to equip themselves with a P.C./laptop/mac with software such as 'Transcribe (or similar) in order to best learn and study set materials.

Set texts

Refer to 'recommended reading' below.

All textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks, Ground Floor Easterfield Building. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Recommended reading

Coker, Jerry. (1986). Improvising Jazz. New York: Simon and Schuster

Levine, Mark. (1989). The Jazz Piano Book. Petaluma, Ca: Sher Music Company

Coker, Jerry. (1980). The Complete Method of Improvisation. Lebanon, In: PR Incorporated

Coker, Jerry. Elements of the Jazz Language CPP/Belwin, Inc, Miami FL 33014

Aebersold, Jamey. (1979). A New Approach To Jazz Improvisation Vol.1. New Albany, IN: Jamey Aebersold Publications

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz
- NZSM Student Handbook: www.nzsm.ac.nz/student-zone/student-guides

- Scholarships and prizes relevant to NZSM students: www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/scholarships-and-prizes

Events

Regular events are held during trimesters 1 & 2 at all NZSM campuses. These events are for the benefit of all students, and include performances, masterclasses, special lectures and workshops given by staff, students and visiting artists. All students are expected to keep time free to attend the weekly lunchtime concert on Friday at 12.10pm, along with other events as required.

Students should sign up to the **Dawn Chorus**, the NZSM's events e-newsletter, by emailing events@nzsm.ac.nz with 'subscribe dawn chorus' in the subject line.

Email: events@nzsm.ac.nz

Website: www.nzsm.ac.nz/events