



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### *Te Kōkī New Zealand School of Music*

#### **MUSC 327 *Topic in Jazz Studies: Critical Improvisation Studies*** **20 POINTS**

#### **TRIMESTER 1 2016**

### **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24 to 30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 18 June 2016

**Study period:** 6 to 9 June 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 10 to 29 June 2016

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If a student is unable to complete an assignment or sit a test in the final three teaching weeks of the trimester, they may be eligible to apply for an aegrotat pass. Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### **Class times and locations**

Tuesday, 10:00am–11:50am (Room MS209)

Thursday, 11:00am–11:50am (Room MS209)

### **Names and contact details**

**Course Coordinator:** David Cosper

**Contact phone:** 463 5864      **Email:** david.cosper@vuw.ac.nz

**Office located at:** Room 204, 92 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Programme Administrator:** Fiona Steedman      **Email:** fiona.steedman@vuw.ac.nz

### **Communication of additional information**

Official notices issued after the course has commenced will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### **Prescription**

Advanced study of a selected topic within jazz studies.

2016 Offering: This course is an advanced study of jazz literature and performance practice. This year's offering will focus on one of the most commonly identified characteristics of jazz: melodic improvisation. Through close readings of individual jazz performances, grounded in theoretical

literature on improvisation drawn from both jazz studies and the related disciplines of performance and cultural studies, we will explore the historical development of methods and ideologies of improvisation as they have proliferated throughout the jazz century.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. discern and discuss musical detail in relevant repertoire
2. discern and discuss significant issues and methodologies in relevant literature
3. explore and evaluate scholarly and critical approaches to jazz practice
4. demonstrate critical thinking and verbal skills through discussion, analysis, and written work.

These learning objectives contribute to the NZSM Graduate Attributes. For a full list, please see [www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/graduate-attributes](http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/graduate-attributes)

## Teaching format

This course comprises one 50-minute lecture and one 110-minute 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 attend at least one Music Forum seminar presentation during the trimester in which the course is taught. This requirement develops aural and verbal skills in engaging with and critically assessing professional music research, consistent with the course learning objectives. Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements, because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## Workload

A 20-point one-trimester course should require at least 200 hours' work (including class time). This means that during the trimester, the mid-trimester break and study week you should be prepared to spend, on average, 13 hours per week involved in activities such as attending classes, reading, listening to recommended recordings and preparing assignments. Specific workload demands will change from week to week based on assessment schedules. However, as a general rule, each week you should plan to devote five to six hours to assigned reading and listening, two to three hours preparing written work, and one to two hours reviewing previous materials and preparing for tests.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	portfolio of critical responses to assigned materials	20%	1, 2, 3	5 March 2016 12 March 2016 19 March 2016 2 April 2016 9 April 2016 16 April 2016 14 May 2016 28 May 2016

2	in-class tests		30%	1, 2, 3	22 March 2016 21 April 2016
3	seminar presentation		15%	1, 3, 4	TBA
4	final project	proposal	10%	3, 4	9 May 2016
		bibliography			21 May 2016
		outline	25%		4 June 2016
		essay			18 June 2016

## Submission and return of work

Assignments should be submitted through the course Blackboard site. Marked assignments will be returned through the course Blackboard site. 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 the due date will be subject to a 5% demerit each day it is overdue.

## Course materials

Assigned and recommended course materials will be made available through the course Blackboard site.

## Class representative

A class representative serves to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. The class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

## Student feedback

Official course feedback will be solicited during the second half of the academic trimester. Additional written or verbal feedback on lectures, assignments, or assessment is welcome at any time, and may be communicated to the Course Coordinator, either directly or through the Class Representative. Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies, including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)
- NZSM Student Handbook and NZSM Guidelines for Presenting Academic Work: [www.nzsm.ac.nz/student-zone/student-guides](http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/student-zone/student-guides)
- Scholarships and prizes relevant to NZSM students: [www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/scholarships-and-prizes](http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/scholarships-and-prizes)

## Events

Regular events are held during trimesters one and two. 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 attend the weekly lunchtime concert on Friday at 12:10pm, along with other events as required. Music Forum will take place every Friday from 3:10pm–4:30pm. It will normally take place in the Adam Concert Room.

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

**Website:** [www.nzsm.ac.nz/events](http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/events)