

Jazz Improvisation

MUSC 4321

Dr. Geyer

Fall 2017

Time: TBD

Humanities 334

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: bgeyer@westga.edu

Office: Humanities 334

Office Phone: (678)839-6275

Office hours: to be announced

Course Description: Lessons in jazz improvisation on an instrument or voice including an introduction to basic principles of jazz improvisation through lecture, demonstration, listening, writing, and performing. Students complete assignments by using traditional methods and by using the tools of music technology. All courses are repeatable for one or two hours of credit--one 25-minute lesson per week per credit hour

Learning Outcomes: The student will demonstrate at the upper-division level:

1. the ability to perform a variety of scales which are used in jazz improvisation.
2. knowledge of the various styles of jazz and how improvisations relate to those styles.
3. knowledge of the various chord formations used in jazz improvisation.
4. the ability to perform a jazz composition and improvise over the "changes" of that composition in a variety of jazz styles.
5. knowledge of the various terms and practices of a variety of jazz styles.

Common Language for UWG Syllabi: <https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

Course Details

A lesson will be held each week of the semester except on official university holidays. Lesson preparation will be graded according to the rubric (below) and the final grade will be the average of the lesson grades. Missed lessons may be assigned a grade of 0.

Grading Rubric: Assignments, concerts, and the recording will be graded on the following rubric, measuring your command over the material and commitment to the experience:

- 100%: complete command and commitment
- 90%: "almost there" except for a minor problem
- 80%: Satisfactory
- 67%: Struggling
- 0%: Incomplete or unsatisfactory

Semester Grades: 90–100%: A 80–89%: B 70–79%: C 60–69%: D 0–59%: F