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Fall 2015

MUS 4109

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University of New Orleans

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Recommended Citation
Masakowsi, Steve, "MUS 4109" (2015). *University of New Orleans Syllabi.* Paper 830.
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MUS 4109 - 3 credit hours **FALL 2015**
JAZZ HARMONY / THEORY
INSTRUCTOR: STEVE MASAKOWSKI (280-5438)
EMAIL: smasakow@uno.edu
ROOM: PAC 103
DAY/TIME: 2-3:15pm; Monday and Wednesday

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To expand the awareness and improve the musicality of the student by introducing him to contemporary concepts in jazz harmony, theory, ear training, and improvisation.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

LECTURE: Discussion and demonstration of subjects/concepts, handouts, and assignments.
LISTENING: Recorded examples of subject matter, compositional and improvisational styles of selected jazz masters.
EAR TRAINING: Transcribing, singing, bass lines, chords, forms, ***Jazz Ear Training*** *by* Steve Masakowski (required text and CD), dictation.
PLAYING: Exercises, compositions, arrangements, student projects.
PROJECTS: Transcription and performance of contemporary jazz compositions.

REQUIREMENTS: **Your instrument**, music notebook/manuscript paper, *Jazz Ear Training*. Ability to notate assignments on a program of your choice such as Finale, Sibelius, or Muse Score. Internet access utilizing Moodle and email correspondence via your .edu address.

Attendance: No more than 3 unexcused absences per semester. (Doing extra work and/or assignments determined by the teacher can compensate for excessive absences).

Grading/Evaluation: (0 – 100 pts.)

Weekly Assignment	1/6th	
Mid Term	1/6th	(Oct 14th)
Final Exam	1/6th	
Final Projects Due	1/6th	(Nov 30th)
Attendance	1/6th	
Conduct/Punctuality	1/6th	(students are required to be on time and prepared for class and no texting)

These points divided by 6 will make up your grade.

A	= 100 - 93
B	= 92 - 83
C	= 82 - 73
D	= 72 - 63
F	= 62 - below

Weekly assignments (due each week)

Written and playing assignments are due at the beginning of each week. These assignments are not graded but are either accepted or not accepted for credit at the instructor's discretion.

Final projects (final revisions due on Nov. 23rd)

Students are expected to do a transcription of an unpublished (un-notated) contemporary jazz piece in lead sheet form pre-approved by the instructor. Students will be assigned specific dates so that they may have an opportunity to rehearse and play their projects in class. The student is expected to give an analysis of the piece and background

information on the artist. The student must perform and improvise on the piece in a convincing manner. **Projects must be notated on *Finale*** (or similar notation program) and will be graded on accuracy and overall output. All corrected projects are due two weeks before the end of the semester for final review and compilation.
Students will be presented, at the end of the semester, with a compilation of the projects (fakebook) along with recorded excerpts of the included songs.

Final Exam (by appointment on Dec. 2nd)

The final exam will include a singing test based on the 4109 singing guide.

Subjects covered

Diatonic chords and modes of the major, melodic and harmonic minor and major scales
Guide-tone chords and related ranges
Close, open, UST, quartal, and cluster voicings
Numerical analysis
Extended dominants
Tritone substitutes
Sub dominant minor chords
Functional re-harmonization
Common jazz song forms
Cycle progression songs
Backward writing/re-harmonization
Re-harmonization of standards
Harmonizing the bee-bop scale
Slash chords
Symmetrical and exotic scales

TEXT REFERENCES:

DAVID LIEBMAN:
"A Chromatic Approach to Jazz Harmony and Melody"

BERT LIGON:
“Jazz Theory Resources”

MARK LEVINE:
"The Jazz Piano Book"

JERRY COKER:
"The Teaching of Jazz"

NICOLAS SLONIMSKY:
"Thesaurus of Scales and Melodic Patterns"

DAVID BAKER:
"Advanced Ear Training for Jazz Musicians"

DAVID BAKER:
"Modern Concepts in Jazz Improvisation"

BRIAN WAITE:
"Modern Jazz Piano"

MICK GOODRICK:
"The Advancing Guitarist"

** Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu.*

*** It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to http://www.ods.uno.edu.*

****Statement on Classroom Conduct*
Please be thoughtful. Turn off all electronic communication devices. You will be asked to give feedback to your classmates on their progress. Respect and constructive criticism is expected. Disrespectful attitudes, actions or any form of sexual harassment are not acceptable.

(office hours: posted on my office door but generally one hour before and after class times or anytime via email)