



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**  
**Course Number and Title: MUSI 525.06**  
**Topics in Music Performance – Jazz Improvisation**  
**Session: Winter 2023**

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Kristian Alexandrov and André Wickenheiser CHE115 <a href="mailto:kristian.alexandrov@ucalgary.ca">kristian.alexandrov@ucalgary.ca</a> <a href="mailto:andre.wickenheiser@ucalgary.ca">andre.wickenheiser@ucalgary.ca</a> by appointment
Day(s), time(s) and location of Class	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:00-11:50, CHF007
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	There is no required text for purchase in this course. Materials will be provided. However, students are expected to have manuscript paper for music transcriptions. Students are expected to bring their instrument to each class.
Learning Technologies and Requirements	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see <a href="http://d2l.ucalgary.ca">d2l.ucalgary.ca</a> ).  In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;</li> <li>• A current and updated web browser;</li> <li>• Webcam (built-in or external);</li> <li>• Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone;</li> <li>• Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;</li> <li>• Broadband internet connection.</li> </ul> Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
Prerequisites	Admission to the BMus or BA (Music) Program and consent of the Division Lead, Music.
Course description	Various topics such as applied music literature, piano, wind or string pedagogy, or vocal pedagogy, phonetics. Development of jazz improvisation skills through the analysis, performance and evaluation of jazz standards. Other topics will include digital patterns, licks, riffs, scale and chord theory/application, contrafacts and identification of chord progressions. Students will be given theoretical and musical tools to successfully improvise in the jazz idiom.
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. improvise on songs from standard jazz repertoire,</li> <li>2. improvise in different stylistic contexts,</li> <li>3. describe the relationship between chords and scales,</li> <li>4. incorporate jazz vocabulary in improvisations,</li> <li>5. draw upon multiple concepts to develop their improvisations.</li> <li>6. learn jazz vocabulary from transcribing solos.</li> </ol>

Course schedule	The course will be organized in six 2-week segments, starting on Mondays, each with a formative assessment on the first Friday and a summative assessment on the second Friday. In addition, students will submit two written solo transcriptions. The dates of assessments are outlined below.
Assessment components	<p><b>Bi-Weekly Formative Improvisation Assessments I</b>  <b>Type:</b> playing improvisation assessment  <b>Value:</b> six assessments at 5% each, totaling 30%  <b>Date:</b> Every second Friday, on January 13, 27, February 10, March 3, 17 and 31.  <b>Details:</b> Content will be based on the topics discussed, and music worked on, throughout the 2-week segment. Formative improvisation assessments will be based on students' in-class performance, demonstrating preparation of assigned materials.</p> <p><b>Bi-Weekly Summative Improvisation Assessments II</b>  <b>Value:</b> six assessments at 10% each, totaling 60%  <b>Date:</b> Every second Friday, on January 20, February 3, 17, March 10, 24, April 12  <b>Details:</b> Content will be based on the topics discussed, and music worked on, throughout the 2-week segment. Summative improvisation assessments will be based on students' in-class performance, demonstrating a greater understanding of, and proficiency with, assigned materials.</p> <p><b>Solo Transcription Assignment</b>  <b>Value:</b> two assessments at 5% each, totaling 10%  <b>Date:</b> February 17 and April 12  <b>Details:</b> Solo transcriptions should be one chorus, or song form, in length. They must be notated by hand, or using music notation software. Transcriptions will be performed in class along with the original recording. Assessment will be based on the accuracy of rhythms, pitch, and stylistic nuance.</p>
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u> All assignments must be submitted in hard copy in class on or before the due date.</p> <p><u>Missed or Late Assignments:</u> Assignments submitted late will be assessed a 2% penalty for every day late.</p> <p><u>Attendance and Participation Expectations:</u> Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.3 Attendance for details. The content of this course cannot be learned from a textbook – the skills can only be acquired through diligent practice and class participation. Since class participation is a necessary component of the course, students are expected to attend every class. Students who miss class are responsible for getting any assigned homework and preparing it for the following class.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u>  Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p>
Grading scale	A+ 96%–100%    B+ 84%–88%    C+ 72%–76%    D+ 60%–64% A 92%–96%    B 80%–84%    C 68%–72%    D 50%–60% A– 88%–92%    B– 76%–80%    C– 64%–68%    F 0%–50%

	<p><b>Undergraduate:</b> <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.</li> <li>• The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Graduate:</b> <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.</li> </ul>
<p>Guidelines for Zoom Sessions</p>	<p>Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.</p> <p>To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.</p> <p>The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a>). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g <a href="#">Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy</a>). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <a href="https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/">https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/</a>.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).</p> <p>The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.</p>
<p>Academic Accommodation</p>	<p>It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations</a>.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf</a>).</p>

	<p>Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/">www.ucalgary.ca/access/</a>.</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf</a> and <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf</a>. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity</a>.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf</a>.</p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>
Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf</a>) and requirements of the copyright act (<a href="https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html">https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html</a>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html</a>.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>
Student Support	<p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines">https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</a></p>
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	<p>Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at <a href="mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca">ascarts@ucalgary.ca</a>.</p> <p>You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <a href="http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate">http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate</a> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.</p>

Faculty of Graduate Studies:	For graduate studies email: <a href="mailto:graduate@ucalgary.ca">graduate@ucalgary.ca</a> or call 403 220 4938. Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: <a href="https://grad.ucalgary.ca/">https://grad.ucalgary.ca/</a>
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