

MUSI 3125.001: Jazz Theory & Keyboard Fundamentals
Spring 2017

Instructor: Ken Edwards

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Office Hours: TBD, by appointment

Section Information: MUSI 3125.001

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Fine Arts Building, Rm. 303 (tu) & 367f (th), 3:00 pm – 3:50 pm.

Description of Course Content: Basic theoretical musical concepts and keyboard skills relating to jazz and popular music including: scales, harmony, harmonic progressions, etc.

Prerequisite: MUSI 1325 or faculty approval.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Write/spell/play chords and voicings from a given jazz chord symbol
- Write/spell/play scales and modes studied in this course
- Associate scales and modes with their respective jazz chord symbols
- Discuss and analyze standard jazz forms and chord progressions
- Perform basic jazz chord progressions on the keyboard

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

- *The Jazz Language* by Dan Haerle. Published by Warner Brothers Publications.
- Keyboard: *Jazz Piano Voicing Skills* by Dan Haerle. Pub. Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Inc.
- Blank staff paper or notation notebook.

Recommended Materials:

- The Real Book, 6th Edition, treble clef concert pitch (no transposition) – published by Hal Leonard.
- *The Jazz Theory Book*, by Mark Levine. Published by Sher Music Co.
- *Jazz Piano Voicings for the Non-Pianist* by Mike Tracy. Published by Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Inc.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations: Homework will be given during each class. Unless otherwise noted, it will be due during the following class meeting. See the course outline at the end of this syllabus for major assignments and due dates.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will take attendance and each student will be allowed two (2) unexcused absence during the course of the semester. The instructor reserves the right to deduct points from the final semester grade if satisfactory attendance is not met. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class meeting. If you are not in class by the time attendance is taken, you will be counted absent that day.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Grading:	Weekly Homework/Assignments	20%
	Quizzes	10%
	Midterm (Ch. 1-4)	20%
	Keyboard Assignments	15%
	Keyboard Proficiencies Quizzes	10%
	Final Exam (Ch. 1-8)	25%

Grading Scale: A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 0-59%.

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

Makeup Policy: Late assignments are not accepted. If you have extenuating circumstances you must communicate with the professor first. The professor must approve of a change in due date via writing or email for any assignment. You may not turn in late homework, make up a missed quiz or exam without appropriate documentation (doctor’s note).

Disruptive Student Conduct: It is the goal of the professor to create an environment conducive to efficient learning. If a student is distracting their fellow students and/or professor by surfing the net, talking, texting, etc., he or she may be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder of the period without warning. If the behavior continues or is repeated, the student may be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action. Disruptive conduct includes but is not limited to: distractions involving cellular phones, computers, and pagers during classroom lectures, excessive chattering, tardiness and blatant inattentiveness that distracts or disturbs the instructor or other students. For more information on disruptive student conduct, please see the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline in the UT Arlington Handbook of Operating Procedures, or visit <http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/>

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog. http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#19

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/faol/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities,

University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT

Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

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The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to minor change. All changes will be announced in class and via email. Assignments are given in class and are due at the beginning of the next class meeting, unless otherwise noted. You should read each chapter (based on the week number) prior to class attendance.

- Week 1: (Ch.1) Intervals (review)
- Week 2: (Ch.2) Basic Chord Construction
- Week 3:
- Week 4: (Ch.3) Modes of the Major Scale
- Week 5:
- Week 6: (Ch.4) Basic Substitution and Function (& the ii-V-I progression)
- Week 7:
- Week 8: Review & **Midterm**

-MAR 13-17, SPRING BREAK-

- Week 9: (Ch.5) Thirteenth Chords
- Week 10: (Ch.6) Modes of the Harmonic Minor Scale
- Week 11:
- Week 12: (Ch.7) Voicing and Connecting Chords
- Week 13:
- Week 14:
- Week 15: (Ch.8) Modes of the Ascending Melodic Minor Scale