Instructor: Dr. Chris Reyman  
Contact: cereyman@utep.edu

Office Hours:  
Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30AM-12:30PM and by appointment. Virtual meetings can be scheduled by appointment.

Class Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30AM-9:20AM

Location: Digital Keyboard Lab, FFA

Attendance Policy  
Students will be given 3 unexcused absences. I will work with each of you if you miss classes due to illness. DO NOT COME TO CLASS IF YOU ARE SICK. Of course, you will be excused for university-related events as long as they are approved by me at least two weeks in advance via email correspondence.

Course Description  
Developing commercial piano styles and techniques through listening, transcribing, analysis, improvisation and performance.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes  
- Understand and execute fundamental elements of commercial piano styles and technique  
- Develop an understanding of jazz/commercial theory and notation  
- Build “Ears to Fingers” skills through ear training and call and response exercises  
- Develop improvisational skills at the keyboard  
- Use problem solving skills to develop accompaniments for harmonic progressions

Course Overview  
- diatonic chords in major and minor keys: major 7th, minor 7th, half-diminished, fully diminished
- hearing functional tonality and mode mixture (major and minor) and playing (ears to fingers)
- turnarounds
- extended tertian harmony and alterations
- learning jazz blues, standards and jazz standards
- arranging tunes
- reading lead sheets
- transposition
- reharmonization

Course Activities/Assignments

- comping, improvising and walking bass lines over jazz harmonies
- transcribing, notating lead sheet and performing commercial/pop songs
- reading lead sheets
- arranging at the piano (intro, ending)

Course Schedule

Module 1: ii V I progressions (25 points total)
  - WEEK 1: ii V I theory and 4-note voicings and guide tones
  - WEEK 2: ii V I bass lines, QUIZ #1 (10 points), Wednesday, January 24th
  - WEEK 3: ii V I progressions in all 12 keys
  - WEEK 4: Performance Exam #1 (15 points), Wednesday, February 7th

Module 2: Jazz Blues and altered dominants (25 points total)
  - WEEK 5: Jazz Blues progression with 4-note voicings
  - WEEK 6: Jazz Blues progression with guide tones and bass lines, QUIZ #2 (10 points), Wednesday, February 21st
  - WEEK 7: altered dominants
  - WEEK 8: Performance Exam #2 (15 points), Wednesday, March 6th

SPRING BREAK!!!

Module 3: Cantaloupe Island (25 points total)
  - WEEK 9: Groove with both hands
  - WEEK 10: melody and chords, QUIZ (10 points), Wednesday, March 27th
  - WEEK 11: Blues scale improvisation over form
  - WEEK 12: Performance Exam #3 (15 points), Wednesday, April 10th
Module 4: Minor tonality and mode mixture, Blue Bossa
- WEEK 13: minor tonality and mode mixture, Blue Bossa chords/bass
- WEEK 14: Blue Bossa melody/chords
- WEEK 15: Blue Bossa improvisation and review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM: Monday, May 6, 10:00AM-12:45PM

Grade Breakdown

Module 1 (20%)
Module 2 (20%)
Module 3 (25%)
Module 4 (25%)
Attendance/participation (10%)

Statement for Accommodations and Support

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/CASS.

**I want this class to be beneficial to you personally. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns you may have about a particular assignment, the class as a whole or anything else.

***The content of this course is subject to change at any time. I will be adjusting the course to fit the particular needs and interests of this group of students. If anything changes in how I will evaluate you, I will let you know as soon as I can.

Important Date:
Bowling with Bolling, CD release concert with Chris Reyman, Jesus Apodaca, Andy Smith and special guest, Jim Shearer.
Wednesday, February 7th
7:30PM
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall