

Individual Instruction

MUSA 1285

Instructor: Dr. Chris Reyman

Office: FFA 133

Contact: 747-7805, creyman@utep.edu

Class Time: to be determined

Location: FFA 133

Office Hours:

Due to social distancing regulations, all office hours will be held remotely via ZOOM conference calling app (available for free) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:30-11:30AM. You can also email me to set up another time to talk via phone or video call.

Course Objective

To improve student's ability to play piano in commercial and jazz styles.

Course Goals

- 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

Course Overview (topics to be selected from this list)

- hearing basic functional tonality (major and minor) and playing (ears to fingers)
- diatonic chords in major and minor keys: major 7th, minor 7th, half-diminished, fully diminished
- secondary dominants and closely related keys
- rootless 9th chord voicing and 3/7 guide-tones
- arranging tunes
- reading lead sheets
- transposition
- reharmonization
- basic accompaniment for melody instrument
- improvising (bass lines and melody lines)
- improvisation over tonal chord progressions
- chromaticism in improvised lines (enclosures and substitutions)
- blues (form, melody, variations and voicings)
- ii- V I harmony (major/Ionian, minor/Dorian and dominant/Mixolydian)
- turnarounds
- tritone substitution
- extended tertian harmony and alterations
- learning jazz blues, standards and jazz standards

Possible Course Activities

- ear training exercises (ears-to-fingers skills)
- playing assignments, including performing for Piano Area Recital
- listening assignments
- theory analysis
- comping, improvising and walking bass lines over jazz harmonies
- transcribing, notating lead sheet and performing commercial/pop songs
- reading lead sheets
- arranging tunes

Attendance Policy

Lessons that are missed without prior notification (email or phone call/text before the scheduled lesson time) will have an adverse effect on the student's grade.

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated for each individual lesson, as well as an end of the semester jury. Other assignments may include: performance reviews, listening assignments, transcription projects and masterclasses.

Area and Departmental Recitals Attendance Policy

1. All students enrolled in Applied Lessons must attend a minimum of twelve (12) Area and Departmental which take place every Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the Department of Music. **Failing to attend twelve (12) required recitals will result in lowering Applied Lessons' final grade by one letter.**
2. Make up absences are accomplished by attending UTEP Music Department concerts and recitals. Non-University recitals such as El Paso Music Forum, El Paso Symphony, El Paso Wind Symphony, and Pro-Musica as well as any other performances given by our faculty and guests will be accepted.
3. To receive credit for the make-up, a student must attend a music event. The program must be signed by a music faculty member who attended the same event. The program must be brought to the Music Office to record the attendance. Student name and ID# must be on the program. Without this information students will not receive credit.
4. It is the student's responsibility to turn in the signed programs to the main office by 5 p.m. on Friday's Finals week . There will be no exceptions.
5. Students must sign the makeup sheet every time they turn in a program. At the end, the office must have both, the program with the student's information and their signature matching the date. There will be no exceptions.
6. Please notice: When a single area recital is cancelled, students will need to replace the cancelled recital by either going to a different area recital held at the same time or turning in a makeup recital.
7. At the end of the semester, all students will have the same number of expected recitals.

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.

UTEP Policies regarding COVID-19

The UTEP [Temporary Health and Safety Policy](#) requires all faculty, staff, and students to follow these guidelines:

- **Stay at home** if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test.
- **Report** (screening.utep.edu) if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test.
- **Complete screening questions** (screening.utep.edu) every day before coming to campus and follow instructions provided.

While on campus:

- **wear face coverings** when in common areas or when others are present;
- maintain a minimum **separation of six (6)** feet between yourself and others when possible, and arrange spaces to make this possible in almost all circumstances;
- **adhere to room/space limitations** on number of occupants; and
- **wash and/or sanitize hands** frequently.

Faculty Responsibilities (a select list for your information)

- Complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit.
- Inform students that they are required to complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit. You should provide this information even if your course is entirely online because students may come to campus for other

reasons (e.g., library, computer or internet access).

- Have a backup plan for instruction in the event that you become ill or must self-isolate.
- Verify that you have the ability to provide accommodations to students who might miss class, assignments, or exams because of COVID-19. When possible, discuss accommodations in syllabi.
- Include a COVID-19 statement(s) for classroom/lab/studio preventive policies in the syllabus and/or other official course documents (see below).

Student responsibilities

- Complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit.
- Complete COVID-19 student training at [this site](#).
- Contact instructor if temporary accommodations due to COVID-19 are needed (i.e., due to positive COVID-19 test, symptoms, or exposure).
- If unable to wear a face covering (e.g., medical reasons), the best course of action is to enroll in courses that are entirely online or to work with academic advisors, if necessary, to identify alternative courses. If this is not possible, request an accommodation from [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) prior to coming to campus for in-person activities. Students who receive an accommodation to not wear a face covering must share this with the professor and work to minimize contact with others in the class.

Statement Regarding COVID-19 Precautions:

- You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know anyone who should report any of these three criteria, encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.
- For each day that you attend campus "for any reason" you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize

the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

- Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.
- Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.
- Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.
- Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

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