

John Raczka
Office - 100
Phone 442-4601
Office Hours by appt.

Syllabus Beginning/Intermediate Jazz Improvisation
Mus 37 A-B
Mus 38 A-B

Course Objectives

1) To explore the jazz improvisation techniques used by the major jazz artists of the 20th Century.

Required Text

Improvising Jazz, Jerry Coker, Warner Bros. Publications.

Course Requirements

1) Participation in exercises performed in class. Warm up and tune instruments before the start of the class. Electric guitar and bass players please bring a small amplifier if available.

2) Practice outside class times is absolutely essential for progress. Concepts, and eventually jazz tunes, will be introduced at most classes. Students are expected to practice the material for the next class.

3) Attend a minimum of two jazz concerts or night club engagements during the semester. Hand in a one page review for each.

4) Regular attendance is expected - **three weeks worth of absences result in a drop or failing grade.**

5) Grades will be determined by attendance - written assignments - progress (scale patterns, repertoire, sight reading) - participation - concert reviews - quizzes - midterm - homework and final exams.

6) Top performers will have the opportunity to work with professionals in the area. Many former jazz improvisation students have been asked to perform at Eureka and Arcata night clubs.

Food and drinks are not allowed in any classrooms