Beginning Jazz Improvisation
Music 180

> **"Improvisation is the courage to move from one note to the next."—Bobby McFerrin**
>
> **"Jazz can be learned, but it can't be taught."—Paul Desmond**

Time: TTh 1:00-1:50   **Instructor:** Dan Aldag   **Office:** MUS B 213
Room: MUS 109   **Office Phone:** 826-5447   **Office Hours:** TBA
E-mail: aldag@humboldt.edu

Required Materials: You are required to bring your instrument to each class meeting.

Practice time outside of class: Plan on devoting a minimum of 15 minutes a day to practicing material for this class.

For practice purposes, everyone in class will have access to several rooms with stereos:
    rm. 109: Locker combo will be given to you soon.
    rm. 106: Have me sign a key request form to give you access to the stereo in this room.
    rm. 130: The stereo in this room is unlocked.
    rm. 131: Locker combo will be given to you soon.

Rm. 109 is equipped with an iPad containing the apps iReal Pro and Any Tune - Slowdowner.

The library owns an extensive collection of Jamey Aebersold play-along CDs, which are on reserve in the library. You can also purchase these from jajazz.com and download individual tracks from iTunes.

Attendance Policy: Regular class attendance and participation is essential if you wish to get the most out of this class. You are allowed four excused absences. An absence is excused if it is for illness, family emergency, or university-related travel <u>and</u> Dan is notified before class. Each additional absence will lower your final grade one level (A to A-, A- to B+, etc.) <u>Any</u> unexcused absence will lower your final grade by one letter. If you do not participate in class, you will be considered absent

Concert and Workshop Attendance: You are required to attend at least three of the following concerts, or others that may be announced during the semester:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Price</u>
Tue., 9/12	Matt Wilson's Honey & Salt	8 p.m.	KBR	$8
Fri., 9/15	Hunter Gather	8 p.m.	The Crib	$10-$25
Tues., 9/19	Pete & Will Anderson	7 p.m.	The Crib	$10-$25
Sat., 9/23	Pharaoh Sanders Quartet	8 p.m.	JVD	$10
Sun., 10/8	Dayna Stephens Quartet	8 p.m.	MGM	$8
Fri., 11/10	John Ellis & Double-Wide	8 p.m.	APH	$8

FRH=Fulkerson Recital Hall   JVD=John Van Duzer Theater   KBR=Kate Buchanan Room
MGM=Morris Graves Museum   APH=Arcata Playhouse
The Crib=contact crib1251@gmail.com

You are required to attend at least two of the following free workshops, or others that may be announced during the semester:

Date	Workshop	Time	Location
W., 9/13	Matt Wilson	AM	TBA
Mon., 10/9	Dayna Stephens	AM	TBA
Fri., 11/10 or Sat., 11/11	John Ellis	TBA	TBA

      I will get you times and locations for the workshops as soon as I know them.

Grades: Your final grade will be based on the following:
1) Practice time and practice journals—40% of final grade
   You are required to practice at least 90 minutes each week, spread over at least five days a week. Practice time is self-reported in practice journals, which are due at the beginning of class each Tuesday.
2) Class participation – 30%
   You earn a point for each class in which you participate. At the end of the semester, half of your final grade will be based on points earned divided by number of classes attended.
3) Skills – 20%
   Various skills will be introduced in class throughout the semester, and you will be assessed on those skills after an appropriate amount of time.
4) Concert attendance – 6%
   Each concert attended is worth 2%. You can earn 2% extra credit for each concert attended above the required number of three.
5) Workshop attendance – 4%
   Each workshop attended is worth 2%. You can earn 2% extra credit for each workshop attended above the required number of two.

> **"Jazz is not a what, it's a how…And anyone who makes music according to this method conveys to me an element that makes his music jazz"—Bill Evans**

This course explicitly contributes to students' acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to:

HSU Student Learning Outcomes
1) Effective communication through written and oral modes.
2) Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.
3) Competence in a major area of study.
4) Appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities and viewpoints.

Area C Student Learning Outcomes
1) apply discipline‐ specific vocabulary and central discipline‐ specific concepts and principles to a specific instance, literary work or artistic creation.
2) respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will differentiate between emotional and intellectual responses.
3) explain the nature and scope of the perspectives and contributions found in a particular discipline within the Arts and Humanities as related to the human experience, both individually (theirs) and collectively.
4) demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and cultural elements involved in the creative arts through their (or, "as a result of their") participation in and study of drama, music, studio art and/or creative writing.

Music Major Student Learning Outcomes
1) Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the elements of music – rhythm, melody, harmony, and structure.
2) Students will demonstrate familiarity with, and an ability to perform a wide selection of musical literature representing principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.
3) Students will demonstrate ability in performing areas appropriate to the student's needs, interests, and degree path.

Campus Policies and Resources: The Syllabus Addendum website (current URL listed below) has been created to house information about campus policies and procedures and resources for students centrally in one place. The site includes links such as Add/Drop Policy, Resources for Students with Disabilities, Academic Honesty Policy, Attendance and Disruptive Behavior Policy, Financial Aid, Emergency Procedures, and Counseling and Psychological Services.

http://www2.humboldt.edu/academicprograms/syllabus-addendum-campus-resources-policies