



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

MUSP-371 Applied Jazz Theory and Improvisation I

Course Code MUSP-371	Course Title Applied Jazz Theory and Improvisation I	ECTS Credits 6
Department Music & Dance	Semester spring	Prerequisites MUCT 112
Type of Course Concentration Requirement	Field Jazz	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 3	Lecturer(s) Mr. Charis Ioannou
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement NA	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course

1. To provide the necessary skills for improvisation in the various styles of the jazz idiom
2. To impart a strong sense of appreciation for the art of improvisation and its contribution to the art of music
3. To underline the jazz knowledge that will provide the basis of understanding “the jazz song”.
4. To demonstrate alternative ways to the traditional way of looking at harmony.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Define the various styles of music in which improvisation plays a major role and estimate the value of such an art.
2. Demonstrate the fundamental skills Major Requirement in efficient improvisation
3. Apply competently the art of improvisation to instant compositions or compositions that include improvisation as their main element.
4. Compose music based on improvisation and thus collaborate musically with each other.
5. Analyze any standard repertoire jazz tune with Roman numerals, brackets and arrows demonstrating the function of each chord as well as the melodic content.
6. Understand the function of the scales within a jazz tune.
7. Reharmonize any melody given to them with the use of substitute dominants, modal interchange chord as well as symmetrical scales.

8. Differentiate between the modes of the major and melodic minor scales.

Course Contents

- Improvisation as a general concept in music.
- Specific types of improvisation used in today's music.
- How to "practice" improvisation.
- Performance of compositions in class.
- Guest performers.
- Recording and assessment of students' improvisations

- The major scale and the chords and modes that derive from it.
- Secondary dominants and their resolution / choice of extension notes
- Analyzing songs
- Melodic minor scale
- Modal interchange chords
- Symmetrical scales

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods

Lectures, Discussions with class participation and Assignments

Assessment Methods

Mid-Term Project; Final Project; Assignments and Class Participation.

Required Textbooks/Reading

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Derek Bailey	Improvisation: Its Nature and Practice in Music	Da Capo	1992	0-306-80528-6

Recommended Textbooks/Reading

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Paul E. Berliner	Thinking in Jazz	Chicago	1994	0-226-04381-9
Elliot Schwartz and Daniel Godfrey ed.	Music since 1945: Issues, Materials, and Literature	Wadsworth	1993	0-02-873040-2
Various	Recordings			