



MUJS 1013/MUJS 5363 – KEYBOARD III FOR JAZZ MAJORS

MUSI 293 | T/TH 8:00-9:20 a.m.

T/TH 11:00-12:20

Carter Floering & Prajwal Lama

Teaching Fellow

Office Hours: By Appt

cell: 231-735-3553

CarterFloering@my.unt.edu

COURSE PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

As jazz musicians, it is important to develop fundamental piano skills which will serve to strengthen one's understanding of harmony. Studying the piano gives the serious musician new tools and ways to visualize ideas, as well as display these ideas with an alternate sense of clarity. This course will combine the study of piano technique through simple piano exercises with technical aspects of the piano specific to jazz study. By the end of the course, you should feel comfortable playing scales, ii-V-I progressions, basic classical sheet music, and comping through a jazz standard.

COURSE CONTENT AND MATERIALS

I will provide PDFs for many of your assignments, but there are some required books you should buy. They are not too expensive, and we will likely continue to use them in Keyboard IV.

1. Alfred's Piano Library: The *Complete* Book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios & Cadences (Around \$14 on Amazon)
2. Scales and Pieces in All Keys *BOOK 2* by John W. Schaum (Around \$8 on Amazon)

COURSE POLICIES AND INFORMATION

GRADING: Your final grade is determined by the following criteria. Note that grades are reflective of a student's progress made in class, rather than his/her innate skills. If you show up to class on time every day, you will score at least a 50% in the class even if you failed all your assignments. Furthermore, while I do take late work, there is a 10-point penalty per day the assignment is late.

In the case of an absence a missed quiz due to an **unexcused** absence will be considered missing/late. I will mark the missing quiz as a 0 in the gradebook until it is made up, which will be the next time that you show up to class. Per syllabus, late work receives a 10-point penalty per class day. If you miss a class **unexcused** on Tuesday and you show up on Thursday, we will do your quiz that class day, and the highest you can earn is a 90. If you show up on the following Tuesday, then the highest you can score is an 80 etc.

If you email me ahead of time with a legitimate reason, work, illness, family emergency etc. the absence will be **excused** and there will be no penalty to making up quizzes the next class period or two.

IMPORTANT: There is a special category of assignment, called the Piano Proficiency Quiz (there are 7), which will be graded in the Weekly Assignments Category. At the end of the semester, you will have the opportunity to retest any 2 of the Proficiency Quizzes that you scored below 72 on. If you still have 2 or less quizzes unpassed you can try them again next semester in MUJS 1014. But by the end of MUJS 1014 (next semester), you must have passed all 7 Quizzes with a minimum grade of 72 or higher. If at the end of this semester you have 4 or more proficiency quizzes unpassed, you will receive an F in the course (regardless of other grades you earned) and must register to repeat Piano III next year. A student receiving an F in the course must repeat the course to change the grade. Graduate Students have all assignments weighted the same, so they do not have any quizzes classified as proficiency quizzes.

If you pass your 7 Proficiency Quizzes, your Semester Grade will be calculated as follows:

50%: Daily Lesson Attendance

50%: Weekly Assignments (Canvas Video or in-person assessment)

Proficiency Quizzes are worth twice as much as in class weekly assessments for both undergraduate and graduate students

The final grade is determined by the following scale:

A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = below 60%.

****Grades that are one point or less below a cutoff can be rounded up at the sole discretion of the instructor based on a student's overall effort, disposition, and attendance both in class and in office hours. For example, 89.1 and 89.0 *can* be rounded at the instructor's discretion, 88.9 *cannot*.**

ATTENDANCE:

If you miss class unexcused, that day's lesson attendance grade will be a 0, as will your weekly assignment grade if you are not there when it happens. If you have a legitimate reason to miss class (e.g. medical emergency, family strife), email me within 24 hours of next class, and I will work with you to make up missed work in a way that will not harm your grade. If you arrive late to class after I have taken attendance (usually sometime in the first 5 minutes of class), that day's lesson attendance grade will drop by 20%. If you arrive after the first 10 minutes of class, you will be marked as absent and will receive a 0 for that day's lesson attendance grade, though you will still be graded normally on your assignments, so it is beneficial for you to come anyways.

If you feel overwhelmed in any way, or if you are dealing with something that is causing you to miss a significant amount of class, the best thing to do is speak with me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester when grades are published.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to adjustment throughout semester)

Weeks 1-4: Hymn Sight-reading, Five-Finger Exercises

Weeks 5-8: Chord Progressions, 2-5-1 Review, Scales

Weeks 8-12: Prepared Choral Scores, Transposition

Weeks 12-16: Reading & Accompanying, Stylistic Comping to lead sheets, Solo Piano Arrangements

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE

With the goal of this course being to pass the proficiency exams, each of those should be treated with the same attention and care as a final.

OTHER COURSE INFORMATION

EMAIL USE:

It is expected that you use your **UNT** email address for all correspondence related to your degree. Any university-related questions emailed to me from your personal email address, through social media, or through SMS (text messaging) will not receive a response. Furthermore, you must check your **UNT** email **DAILY** to be able to respond to information in a timely fashion.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND INFORMATION

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all

instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

DIVERSITY AND BELONGING

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: [Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Link: <https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion>

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Issues](#)

Link: <https://speakout.unt.edu>.

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>