



## **MUJS 1014 – KEYBOARD III FOR JAZZ MAJORS**

**MUSI 121 | MWF 1:00 p.m. / TR 8:00 a.m.**

**Tomás Jonsson**

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### **COURSE PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES**

It is important for every serious musician to have a fundamental level of facility at the piano. This is especially true for Jazz musicians, whose daily work requires a deep understanding of harmony. This course will combine a foundation in piano technique with simple classical piano excerpts and essential jazz voicings. By the end of the course, you should feel comfortable playing scales, ii-V-I progressions, and basic classical sheet music. We may even get to some application for jazz harmony, for example, rhythmic comping in different styles.

### **COURSE CONTENT AND MATERIALS**

We will use the same two books as we did last semester, the second two books are new.

1. Alfred's Piano Library: The \*Complete\* Book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios & Cadences (Around \$12 on Amazon)
2. Scales and Pieces in All Keys \*BOOK 2\* by John W. Schaum (Around \$8 on Amazon)
3. KEYBOARD STRATEGIES, Master Text II, (KS II) by Stecher, Horowitz, Gordon, Kern & Lancaster (G. Schirmer, Inc.).
4. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 FOR STRINGS, Piano Accompaniment Book 1 (EES), by Allen, Gillespie & Hayes (publ., Hal Leonard).

### **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.

**IMPORTANT:** This semester, there is a new feature of our class, Piano Proficiency Quizzes, 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. By the end of the semester, you must pass all 7 Quizzes with a minimum grade of 72 or higher.

If you fail 3 or less proficiency quizzes, you will receive a grade of Incomplete and must enroll in MUAS 3523 Functional Piano to pass the remaining Quizzes. The Incomplete will be changed to F if the entire Proficiency is not passed within one calendar year.

**But if you fail 4 or more proficiency quizzes, you will receive an F in the course (regardless of other grades you earned) and must register to repeat Piano IV. A student receiving an F in the course must repeat the course to change the grade.**

**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)

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 it is unexcused, you can make up your weekly assignment with a 10-point penalty per day. 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: Five Finger Exercises, Hymn Sight-reading, Reading and Accompanying

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

Weeks 8-12: Prepared Choral Scores, Scales

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

#### **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, 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.

LINK: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/dcgcover/resources/integrity>

### **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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

LINK: Student Code of Conduct - <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](http://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.

LINK: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://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 Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and

must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation.

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

## **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 registered hours per term. 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 being doing so.

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.

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 Blackboard/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.

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

### **COUNSELING AND TESTING:**

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

<http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>. For more information on mental health issues, please visit: <https://speakout.unt.edu>.

The counselor for music students is:

Myriam Reynolds

Chestnut Hall, Suite 311

(940) 565-2741 | [Myriam.Reynolds@unt.edu](mailto:Myriam.Reynolds@unt.edu)