



MUAC 1532 – Jazz Piano

MU 272 | TBD

June Lee

DMA Candidate and Teaching Fellow, Jazz Piano

Office Hours: By Appointment

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COURSE PHILOSOPHY/OBJECTIVES

The piano is a polyphonic instrument that has two roles as a soloist and an accompanist and requires the use of two interdependent hands. Therefore, learning piano allows students to simultaneously comprehend melodic concepts, harmonic fundamentals and rhythmic aspects.

Jazz Piano Lessons are designed for piano majors and non-piano majors alike, to broaden their musical capability and enhance their functional jazz piano skills.

For non-piano major students, this course provides piano fundamentals with basic jazz techniques. We will primarily focus on:

- Primary Pianistic Technique – posture, time, finger independence etc.
- Hand Interdependence
- Harmonic Construction and Diatonic Scales
- Building 2-5-1 voicings with both hands
- Arpeggio and rhythmic comping
- Application in jazz standard tunes or other modern music.

For piano major students, the course will solidify the fundamental skills of jazz piano performance. These skills include:

- Arranging jazz standards for solo piano utilizing various textures on both hands
- Improvising eighth note solos with rhythmic motive in the right hand against consistent left-hand rhythms and basslines
- Transcribing a solo of a historic pianist that features the concept covered in the lesson
- Honing various forms of voicing and voice leading

Specific content for lessons will differ for each student and will reflect both the interests of that student and my suggestions as the instructor.

COURSE CONTENT/MATERIALS

There is no textbook required for this course, but students should be able to seek out recordings when asked by the instructor as an assignment.

COURSE POLICIES AND INFORMATION

GRADING:

All assignments are determined on an individual basis by the instructor.

The final grade is determined by the average of lesson grades and there is no official jury. Your grade is determined by the following criteria. Note that grades are reflective of a student's progress made in lessons, rather than his/her innate skills.

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

ATTENDANCE:

You are entitled to seven 50 min private lessons over the course of the semester. If you cannot make our scheduled lesson time, and can give me at least 24 hours' notice, then we can reschedule for another mutually convenient time. If I ask to reschedule a lesson, you will be entitled to a make-up lesson.

COVID-19 IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class. If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>) , please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important. (Approved Faculty Senate 5/13/20)

COURSE SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

On Week 1, we will schedule lessons via Doodle and our first lesson starts on the second week. Please check your UNT regularly.

- **Week 2 (First Lesson):** Introductory Consultation and Goal Setting (Including assigning of course texts based on individual level)
- **Week 3 -7 (Lessons 2-6):** Execution of Semester Goals
- **Week 8 (Lesson 7):** Midterm Assessment and Goal Adjustment
- **Week 9-14 (Lessons 8-13):** Execution of Adjusted Semester Goals
- **Week 15 (Lesson 14):** Final Assessment and Final Consultation
- **Week 16 (Final Week) -** No Class

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. 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/

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. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

2020-2021 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=23&navoid=2454#fall_2019

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2020-2021

<https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2020-21/calendar>

Final Exam Schedule

<https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

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