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**MUAS 1501 / 3501 – APPLIED PIANO**

**Bain 224 | Times TBA**

**Tomás Jonsson**

Teaching Assistant **|** Bain 224

Office Hours: By Appt

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**Dave.meder**

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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. In this class, we will work to set achievable goals for your development that encompass technique, harmony, rhythm, and practical application.

**COURSE CONTENT AND MATERIALS**

There is no textbook required for this course, but students should be able to seek out recordings online of things I mention in our lessons. From time to time, I may provide PDFs of resources that could be helpful to your development.

**COURSE POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

**GRADING:** 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. If you show up to your lesson on time, you start off with a 50% grade for that week, the remaining 50% is determined by your effort.

75%: Lesson Attendance and Progress

25%: Final Project (determined by goals set in first week)

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:**

You are entitled to 50 min private lessons every other week (or 25 min/week) over the course of the semester. We will meet at Bain 224 unless otherwise specified. 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. If you do not show up to a lesson or cancel with less than 24 hours notice, that week’s Lesson Attendance and Progress grade will be a 0. If there is an extreme emergency, you should let me know and I may waive that as needed. Arriving 10 minutes late will result in a 20% grade penalty for the week’s lesson (which means the highest you can earn is an 80%). Any later than that is considered an absence and will result in a 0 for the week. **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**

On Week 1, we will schedule a regular lesson time and our first lesson starts on the second week. We will set some personal goals for you to be able to achieve by the end of the semester.

**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. Exception: I’ve provided my cell phone info above (832-481-2965), if you need to reach me immediately with a class-related issue, you may do so there. E.G. A class is running late, sudden illness etc. But the standard way is through UNT mail for most issues.

**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