Course Content
The study of knowledge & techniques leading to a thorough understanding of the necessary components for jazz improvisation including historical perspectives, styles identified with certain eras, evolution of improvisation, and the importance of improvisation in the jazz idiom.

Course Purpose
This course will prepare the student to function as an improvising artist in any style of jazz music. Each lesson will be designed to develop both knowledge and skill in preparation for this goal.

Expected Learning Outcomes
These learning outcomes as well as those listed in the Saxophone Handbook will be tailor-made by Professor Leali in consultation with each individual student. Upon completion of this course, skills that students acquire can include:

1. Identify and explain several different approaches to Jazz improvisation
2. Recognize certain rhythmic patterns considered to be necessary components of the jazz language
3. Execute all major and minor (natural, jazz melodic, harmonic), scales with diatonic 13th patterns and intervals of 3rds and 4ths. Diminished and whole tone scale patterns will vary.
4. Define the term “Jazz Language”
5. Explain & demonstrate different techniques employed in the development of a good jazz improvisation
6. Recognize and differentiate between jazz masters of their perspective instruments as well as other jazz instrumentalists and vocalists
7. Construct an improvisation, employing appropriate scale choices, solid technique, competent melodic sense and rhythmic diversity, with or without accompaniment
8. Explain the fundamental concepts that make memorization of melodies and harmonic functions a necessity in Jazz music
9. Discuss the major innovators of each era in jazz, explaining their contributions and defining the characteristics that led to their labels as innovators
10. Recognize certain harmonic patterns, visually or aurally and explain their significance
11. Explain the importance of ear training and discuss several techniques related to the development of good aural sense
Methods For Assessing the Expected Learning Outcomes

The expected learning outcomes for the course will be assessed through:
1. Weekly private lessons
2. Group and private listening
3. Performances (school activities, jam sessions, and gigs)
4. Teacher student discussions
5. Clinicians feedback and assessments
6. Transcriptions
7. At the end of each semester, each student is required to perform a jazz jury

Course Outline
Students will prepare repertoire assigned by the instructor, as well as be expected to do individual research of contributors to jazz, improvisational, and creative music. Individual lessons will be supplemented by the students’ participation in a large jazz ensemble or jazz combo and the participation in weekly jazz departmentals, jam sessions, and gigs.

PLEASE MAKE NOTE:
• If a student misses a lesson, I possessed the right as to whether or not there will be a makeup lesson.
• Any lesson that the instructor misses will be made up.
• If a student does not perform at what I deem a satisfactory level, I possess the right to terminate lessons and refer the student to a TF.
• Each student is allowed three (3) absences a semester for whatever reason, excused or unexcused. Use these wisely. Any additional absences will result in a lower final grade according to Professor Leali’s discretion. Students missing more than 5 lessons may not receive course credit.

Course Expectations
1. Students are expected to attend lessons.
2. Students are expected to attend all jazz departmentals on time. (unless the student has a pre-approved absence by Professor Leali)
3. Students are expected to practice all lesson assignments.
4. Students are expected to listen to recordings, DVD’s etc. of jazz.
5. Students are expected to attend live performances of varying styles when possible.
6. Students are expected to act professional at all times.
7. Students are expected to perform a jazz jury at the end of each semester.
Grading
Grading is based on attendance, assignments, final scale/etude juries, and attitude.
• 10% Attendance (.5 of a letter grade will be lowered for each unexcused absence)
• 40% Assignments
• 40% Final Scale/Etude Jury (failure to take the juries will result in a failure of the course)
• 10% Attitude

Grades are determined by a qualitative assessment of the students' progress and effort throughout the semester. Students will be evaluated weekly in their lessons, as well as in performances and participation. Students can expect that lack of preparation, attendance, and participation will negatively impact their grade. Students may ask their instructor at any time what kind of grade their current work merits.

Students enrolled in applied saxophone are expected to attend all saxophone lessons. If a student wishes to cancel a lesson, the teacher may make up the lesson at his discretion. Students wishing to cancel a lesson should notify the teacher at least 24 hours in advance (with the exceptions of death in the family or serious illness). If a student is unable to attend a lesson, she/he must give prior notification (via email brad.leali@unt.edu) to the instructor. Insufficiently prepared lessons will not be made up.

Applied lessons will begin no later than during the second week of classes. Each student will receive a minimum of 13 lessons per semester. Students missing more than 5 lessons may not receive course credit.

Class Schedule
Every week, students will have a private lesson. Class times will be determined in consultation with the instructor.

ADA Compliance
Any student who because of a disability may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary accommodations. Student should present appropriate verification from access TECH. No requirements exist that accommodations be made prior to completion of this approved university procedure.
Class Attendance

1. The University expects regular and punctual attendance in classes.
2. Responsibility for class attendance rests with the student.
3. In general, students will be graded on the basis of intellectual effort and performance, not on class attendance. It is recognized, however, that in some classes the student's grade must be based wholly or in part on class participation as, for example, in physical activity classes, musical performing groups, and certain seminars, and thus absences may lower the student's grade. In such cases the instructor shall make his expectation of attendance clear at the beginning of the semester by means of a written notice.
4. In accordance with state law, a student absent due to the observance of a religious holiday may take examinations or complete assignments scheduled for the days missed, including those missed for travel, within a reasonable time after the absence. Students should notify the instructor in each course of the date of the anticipated absence as early in the semester as possible. Only holidays or holy days observed by a religion whose place of worship is exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code may be included. A student who is excused under this provision may not be penalized for the absence, but the instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails satisfactorily to complete the assignment or examination.
5. The student's academic dean must authorize absences of students due to participation in university-sponsored activities, such as athletics, debate, musical organizations, AFROTC, class field trips, etc. Within three days after the absence, students must obtain authorized absence cards from the Dean of Students for presentation to their instructors.
6. Students who have been issued authorized absence cards or who have made satisfactory explanations of absence to the instructor shall, when practicable, be given an opportunity to make up the work missed. If it is not feasible for the student to make up the work, some allowance shall be made in order that the student is not penalized.
7. Any instructor who so informs students in writing about the necessity of class attendance may request of the Registrar that a student be dropped from the course with a grade of WF upon the accumulation of the stated number of absences. Departments and similar academic units have authority to establish a department-wide or course-wide attendance policy, so long as the policy is in accord with the above stipulations.
Are you a MUSICIAN?

Your HEARING is your livelihood, and your livelihood may be AT RISK!

The FACTS about Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL):

• As many as 50% of musicians have problems with hearing loss.
• Risk of injury is based on a combination of sound intensity and duration.
• Listening to music, live or recorded, in performance or rehearsal, can result in significant exposure to high sound levels.
• Hearing loss is cumulative: all sources (24/7) of elevated sound levels contribute.
• Permanent NIHL is irreversible.
• Temporary NIHL is reversible with adequate rest and recovery.

HOW do I protect myself?

Short Term: Control your environment wherever possible

• Listen to recorded music at moderate loudness levels.
• Reduce exposure time to sound levels above 85dB.
• Reduce repeated or cumulative exposure.
• Protect yourself from exposure to hazardous sound environments.
• Use ear protection in noisy environments. *
• Rest the ears between exposures to loud sounds.

Long Term: Inform yourself about your own exposure history

• Get a base-line comprehensive audiological evaluation. *
• Follow up with annual checkups.
• Know the symptoms of NIHL: Temporary threshold shifts, ear discomfort after exposure, ringing and buzzing, difficulty of hearing in noise.
• Know how to request and use a SPL meter to estimate your exposure in potentially risky environments.

Hearing evaluations are FREE to all UNT students through the Department of Speech and Hearing. (940) 565-2262
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
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.

ACCEPTABLE 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. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at 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 and how to forward your e-mail: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ADA 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 website at disability.unt.edu. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Spring Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

Final Exam Schedule
http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring
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.

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. Please visit http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. 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.

Grades
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. 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. Please visit http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. 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.

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 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 at the following link: essc.unt.edu/registrar/ferpa.html

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available April 18th – May 1st to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For the spring 2016 semester you will receive an email on April 18th (12:01 a.m.) from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via iASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.
MUJS 4720 Jazz Studies Recital Capstone

Division of Jazz Studies
College of Music
University of North Texas
Syllabus Spring 2016

3 Semester Hours
Meeting for academic component: Friday 11-11:50 a.m., room 282
Instructors: Fred Hamilton and John Murphy

CORE CURRICULUM

This course is an important component of UNT’s Core Curriculum. This course is related to the category of Creative Arts and will focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. This capstone experience focuses on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination because effective recital preparation depends on your having appreciated and analyzed a wide range of musical works, culminating in the choice of the works of the program and their in-depth study guided by the instructor. This capstone experience involves the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enables critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of arts because effective recital preparation includes extensive communication about the critical interpretation of artistic expression in the private lessons that precede the recital, especially since jazz performance practice allows performers a great deal of freedom to make interpretive choices. This work culminates in the recital, in which you will present a synthesis of the preceding critical interpretation through the medium of musical performance.

As an integral part of the core curriculum, while engaging in this course you will develop and demonstrate the core objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Teamwork, and Social Responsibility.

Critical Thinking Skills – including creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Effective recital performance depends on the skills of creative thinking,
innovation, inquiry, and analysis. You will prepare to perform the composed portion of the composition and then improvise on it. Improvisation depends on your ability to think creatively and innovate on a moment-to-moment level. These skills are also developed over the course of the semester as you learn the compositions and develop improvisational strategies. You will do inquiry and analysis guided by the instructor as you learn about the genesis of the composition and analyze its structure using the skills of music theory and analysis you have developed through four years of study.

**Communication Skills** – including effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. You will develop, interpret, and express your ideas through written program notes, oral commentary about the compositions on the program during the performance, and the group's visual presentation on stage. These skills are also developed during the lessons and rehearsals that precede the recital performance itself. While music is a nonverbal art, the preparation of musical performances requires a high degree of communication.

**Teamwork** – including the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. You will consider different points of view and work effectively with others to support the shared goal of effective performance. Jazz performance practice allows performers a high degree of choice over how the composition will be arranged and improvised on. The rehearsal process includes many opportunities for teamwork as you choose and prepare repertoire with the guidance of the instructor.

**Social Responsibility** – including intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. You will develop intercultural competence as you form a performance group from among our diverse jazz studies student population and as you learn about the many world music traditions that jazz musicians have drawn on. You will develop knowledge of civic responsibility by preparing your performance with the audience in mind. This includes the audience for your senior recital and extends to include thinking of all of you musical study at UNT as preparation for engaging with audiences and being part of a musical community after you complete your studies.

**This Document**

This document serves as the syllabus for the Senior Recital Capstone Course MUJS 4720. This course includes applied lessons in the semester during which the recital will be given, the recital itself, and classroom meetings to accomplish the academic goals of the capstone. Applied instructors may supplement the requirements in this syllabus as long as the requirements in this syllabus are preserved.
Grading

Grading will be completed in consultation with your major/applied professor. Your grade will be a combination of four primary elements within the class.

70%: Recital performance, lesson preparation, studio class/departmental attendance
10%: Ethics Project
10% Program Notes
10% Video

Grades of Incomplete (I) are only given during the last few weeks of the semester to students in the most select of circumstances (such as sudden illness or family emergency) to students who are passing in the course at that time. Please see me if you have questions.

If you have an established disability as defined by the Americans with Disability Act, and would like to request accommodation, please see me before the second week of class begins.

Part I Academic component

Weekly class meetings during weeks 1-8 of the semester will be focused on preparing for the following assignments. Attendance is required at all classroom meetings.

Ethics Assignment: We will discuss copyright law, labor law, contracts, music unions, and ethical implications pertaining to professional behavior in the music profession. Students will write an essay that discusses an ethics case study.

Program Notes Assignment:

We will study how to write effective program notes. You will prepare program notes for your recital. Due date is two weeks before your recital. You’ll get them back in time to make revisions before the recital. Notes must be distributed at your recital.
**Video Assignment:** The student will make a 3-minute video that demonstrates the speaking and technology skills necessary to effectively handle a short promotional video or a video job interview.

**Part II The Jazz Studies Senior Recital**

**Prerequisites**

A senior recital is required of all candidates for the Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies degree. In order to be eligible, candidates must successfully complete either the Jazz Studies Concentration Exam (for Performance Emphasis) or the Jazz Arranging Proficiency Exam (for the Arranging Emphasis). Jazz Studies drum set performance majors must pass all required drum set and percussion proficiency barriers before scheduling a Jazz Studies senior recital.

**Procedures**

Once a candidate has passed the JSCE he or she may begin planning a recital.

The following steps are required:

1. Submit the form that certifies that all requirements have been met for the recital.
2. Receive the class number from the Jazz Studies administrative assistant and register for this course.
3. Attend the recital orientation meeting, which occurs during a class meeting of this course.
4. All undergraduate performance recitals must be shared by two recital candidates
5. If you have picked out a recital partner, indicate that at the recital orientation meeting. If you do not have a partner, notify the recital coordinator before the recital orientation meeting.
6. Your recital advisor is your applied instructor. Once you have found a recital partner, consult with both advisors about the program (see below for more on the program) and then have the recital advising form signed by both your applied instructor and your recital partner’s recital advisor.
7. Schedule the recital and the dress recital using the guidelines distributed at the recital orientation meeting. Jazz recitals may only be presented Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m. in Kenton Hall. Recitals cannot conflict with other Jazz Studies performances or other College of Music performances of a similar nature.
8. Your applied lessons this semester are intended to help you prepare for your recital.
Recital Committee

In addition to your advisors, one other faculty member will serve on your committee. This faculty member will communicate his or her evaluation to your applied instructor. A copy of the Recital Advisement Form will be kept by your advisor after your final meeting and circulated by your advisor for committee signatures after your recital.

Program and Recital Performance

The responsibility to ensure that the recital is carried out within the guidelines of the Jazz Studies Division is shared among the students who are sharing the recital and their advisors. The recital content will be chosen in consultation with the recital advisors and should reflect a variety of current and historical styles. You will need the signature of both advisors on the recital advisement form for final approval before the recital. The recital will emphasize improvisation vehicles from the standard jazz repertoire. It should last between 45 and 60 minutes. Guitarist and Pianists must include one solo number. All others must include either a solo or duo number. The performance area should be neat and attractive.

Memorization requirement

Candidates must perform from memory. Student performers other than the two candidates may read music.

Faculty performance on recitals

Only students may perform on undergraduate degree recitals. Members of the faculty, including professors, lecturers, and adjunct instructors, may not perform on degree recitals.

Recording and Sound

A recording of the recital must be made, either by the UNT College of Music Recording Services or a service contracted by the students. It is the candidates’ responsibility to submit a recording to each of the recital advisors. If Jazz Studies division sound reinforcement equipment is used, it must be used under the supervision of the recital advisors.
**Printed Programs**

Printed recital programs are required. Proofs are to be submitted to the College of Music program office three weeks before the recital.

**Dress**

Concert attire should meet professional expectations that are appropriate for a final degree recital. Consult with the advisors in advance on this matter.

**Assessment:** The senior recital is to be graded by the applied instructor in collaboration with a committee of faculty from the Jazz Studies Division. The reviewing faculty will assess the performance with a four-point rubric.

**Lessons**

The College of Music has established 13 as the normal number of lessons per semester, and 8 as the minimum number of lessons a student must attend to receive a passing grade. Therefore, students who have missed a total of six lessons, either excused or unexcused, will be asked to drop lessons for the semester.

Lessons missed by the student, for whatever reason, are made up at the discretion of the teacher. In general, if students must miss lessons for any reason, the teacher should be notified by phone, e-mail, or by a note in the teacher’s mailbox. Lessons missed by the teacher are to be made up, and in a timely manner. Students who feel that their teachers are missing an excessive number of lessons, or that make-ups are not being offered in a timely manner, should contact the chair immediately.

If two lessons are missed without notification, the student will receive a “Notice of Unsatisfactory Progress” report. If an additional lesson is missed without notification, the student will be dropped with a WF.

Lessons will generally be 50 minutes in length.

**Departmentals**

Departmentals will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor. While individual attendance policies will vary, students should not ask to be excused from these classes, as they are considered an important part of applied music instruction.
Recital Attendance

Attendance at weekly departmental recitals is mandatory for all students in Jazz Studies who are taking applied lessons. More than two unexcused absences will result in automatic lowering of the semester grade. At the beginning of each long semester, each teacher is responsible for conveying this requirement to each of his or her students. Students who have a regular conflict at this hour may be excused if their teacher provides a written excuse to the departmental coordinator and/or area coordinator.

Jury Grading

Juries are graded on a 10 point or letter-grading scale, with 10 or A+ being the highest possible grade. All faculty decisions concerning jury grades are final.

Attendance

Attendance policies will be set by the individual applied instructors in the syllabus that supplements this common capstone syllabus.

Practice rooms

Practice room arrangements are made through the Copy Room (room 291).

Ethical conduct

Students are expected to abide by the UNT “Code of Student Conduct and Discipline” found under “students with disabilities.” All sections of applied study comply with the Guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For completed information, see:


Registration codes

All sections of Senior Recital Capstone Course require permission of the Division of Jazz Studies. Students who are eligible to enroll will be given the four or five digit class number for the appropriate course and section. These numbers should only be distributed by individual teachers, advisors, and the Division Administrative Assistant. Students who register without permission will be dropped by the Jazz Studies Division.