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MUS 495.04: Advanced Jazz Theory and Improvisation II

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MUSIC 495, Section 4
ADVANCED JAZZ THEORY AND IMPROVISATION II
David Morgenroth, 251-1402, Office Hours by appointment

Syllabus

CREDITS: MUSIC 495 – Spring Semester 2006 - 2 credits

MEETING TIMES: Tuesday and Thursday from 6:10 pm to 7:00 pm, Room 205

PREREQUISITE: First Semester, Advanced Jazz Theory and Improvisation

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Jazz Theory and Improvisation II is geared toward players continuing to develop their skills as jazz improvisers. This semester we will focus on several areas, namely transcription, tune learning and listening, with a focus on practical synthesis of theoretical information so that every player can express themselves cogently on their instruments in a variety of musical settings.

GRADING: on a traditional basis of 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C;
60-69% = D; below 60% = F.

Transcription Assignment	100
Mid-Term – written (March 21)	100
Final – playing (May 2, 7:40pm)	100
Final – written (May 2, 7:40pm)	100
Quizzes/Class Participation	<u>100</u>
	500 points

EXTRA CREDIT: Up to fifty (50) points will be given for each additional transcription performed from memory and concomitant legible draft submitted.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is equated with attitude and effort and will be a critical factor in borderline grades.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Each class member is responsible for his or her instrument except for the piano, which will be provided. A music staff notebook and a calendar/appointment book will be required to record information discussed in class; other materials will be provided.

CLASS PROCEDURE: Prepare to bring your instrument/equipment every day unless otherwise instructed. Performance in class will be a primary activity, interspersed with music listening, lectures and discussion.

Learning improvisation skills will enhance your ability to express yourself on your instrument. This is not about being perfect; rather, it is about relaxing in the moment, finding a point of focus, and finding the balance between initiation and response. Set the intention of learning the information you receive in this class so well that you internalize it, and from that place you can let go of thinking and simply express yourself through the language of music.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.