# MUSC 148: JAZZ VOCAL TECHNIQUES I

## Citrus College Course Outline of Record

| Heading | Value |
| --- | --- |
| Effective Term: | Fall 2021 |
| Credits: | 3 |
| Total Contact Hours: | 72 |
| Lecture Hours : | 54 |
| Lab Hours: | 0 |
| Hours Arranged: | 18 |
| Outside of Class Hours: | 108 |
| Prerequisite: | Audition. |
| Transferable to CSU: | Yes |
| Transferable to UC: | Yes - Approved |
| Grading Method: | Standard Letter |

## Catalog Course Description

This is a class for music majors and performing artists. Fundamental vocal jazz harmonic theory, performance techniques, and vocal improvisation in a variety of styles will be introduced and explored. Audition required. No textbook required. 54 lecture hours, 18 lab hours arranged.

## Course Objectives

- Demonstrate with beginning level proficiency in linear materials utilized for vocal jazz improvisation; select modes of major and melodic minor scales and their arpeggios, and fundamental melodic and harmonic patterns.
- Demonstrate in written form an understanding of the basic building blocks of jazz harmony: Concepts of modality and tonal center; the chords, arpeggios and chord scales of II-V-I progressions in all major and minor keys; and concepts of key areas in vocal jazz harmonic progressions.
- Demonstrate correct and effective beginning level improvisation on the II-V-I chord progressions of all major and minor keys, and the three most basic chord types (dorian minor 7th, dominant 7th and major 7th.)
- Demonstrate the fundamentals of rehearsing and performing with a jazz band through verbal communication, exploration of varying jazz styles, and lead sheet construction.

## Major Course Content

1. Introduction to vocal jazz melodic materials
    a. Major and Melodic Minor Scales and their most commonly used modes
    b. Arpeggios of Major and Melodic Minor modes
    c. Melodic patterns, standard phrases
2. Introduction to vocal jazz harmonic materials
    a. Basic chord spellings
    b. Basic jazz chord voicings and inversions
    c. Lead sheet chord symbols
    d. The "Cycle of Dominants" and the II-V7-I progressions in major and minor keys
3. Introduction to jazz chord progressions
4. Introduction to jazz melodic phrasing and articulation
5. Introduction to linear/harmonic approaches to improvisation
    a. Recognizing and utilizing key areas
    b. Chord scales
    c. Chord tones and arpeggios
    d. Fundamental voice-leading
6. Solo improvisation
    a. Improvising on elementary jazz chord progressions
    b. Improvising on chord progressions of select beginning-level standards of the jazz repertoire
    c. Modal improvisation techniques
7. Working with a band
    a. Clear and concise verbal communication with instrumentalists in an ensemble setting in rehearsals and in performances
    b. Exploring various jazz styles (swing, latin, waltz, ballad, afro-cuban, funk, etc.)
    c. Lead sheet construction and analysis

## Hours Arranged Content

Each designated class sub-group will meet to rehearse assigned course content topics:

1. Practice chord scales, arpeggios, and melodic patterns on primary instrument
2. Practice application of improvisation techniques to assigned easy selections of the jazz repertoire and chord progression exercises

## Suggested Reading Other Than Required Textbook

Assigned periodical and webpage articles

## Examples of Required Writing Assignments

Written evaluation of live and recorded jazz improvisation using standard evaluation (adjudication) forms and short essay.

## Examples of Outside Assignments

1. Develop, maintain and improve instrumental tone quality, intonation and loudness control, technique and musical rhythm projection on primary instrument. 2. Practice performance of assigned/approved improvisation skill development exercises. 3. Improvise on assigned chord progressions and selections of the jazz repertoire. 4. Transcribe, analyze and perform assigned recorded improvised jazz solos 5. Compose and perform original jazz melodic lines utilizing techniques discussed in class as assigned 6. Apply skills to performances with other jazz performing groups

## Instruction Type(s)

Lecture, Lab, Online Education Lecture, Online Education Lab