

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:		3/0/3						
MU 2150 IMPROVISATION TECHNIQUES I								
(New 2016)		UK LEVEL 4 UK CREDITS:15						
PREREQUISITES:	MU 2014 THEORY AND MUSICIANSHIP I (Or By Permission)							
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	Instrumentalists and singers will develop practical skills in music improvisation and learn fundamental theoretical concepts in order to create coherent improvised solos. Through the development of improvisation techniques, students will cultivate their creativity in ensemble and solo performances.							
RATIONALE:	This course is meant to help students develop the necessary skills for engaging themselves in musical improvisation and to give them the opportunity to practice these skills performing in an ensemble setting. By learning specific improvisational concepts, students will be able to think and respond to musical stimuli in the process of creating original melodies and rhythms. This course is valuable to students interested in performance as well as music arranging and composition							
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	Upon successful completion of this course the student should be able to: <div><div>1.</div><div>demonstrate understanding of fundamental theoretical concepts of improvisation including scales, modes, basic chord progressions and rhythmic ideas as found in jazz and popular music.</div></div> <div><div>2.</div><div>identify and discuss structural and stylistic elements of recorded music performances.</div></div> <div><div>3.</div><div>demonstrate basic skills in music improvisation such as the ability to create and develop melodic ideas based upon give scales and chord progressions.</div></div>							
METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used: <div><div>➤</div><div>In class instructional hours including: lectures, listening and practical exercises studio practice, group work and group discussions</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>In addition to tutor led instructional hours, students are expected to dedicate approximately 110 hours to individual study including: listening, written exercises, and practical work, homework practice using computer software</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Concert attendance (formative)</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use the instructor’s office hours</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Blackboard online learning: where instructors post course information, lecture notes or slides, assignment instructions, announcements and additional resources</div></div>							
ASSESSMENT:	<div>Summative:</div> <table><tr><td>In class written exam</td><td>30%</td></tr><tr><td>In class practical exam</td><td>70%</td></tr></table> <div>Formative:</div> <table><tr><td>Portfolio of written and practical assignments</td><td>0</td></tr></table> <div>The formative portfolio of written and practical assignments aims to prepare students for the examination. The written exam tests learning outcomes 1 and 2 The practical exam tests learning outcomes 1, 3</div>		In class written exam	30%	In class practical exam	70%	Portfolio of written and practical assignments	0
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INDICATIVE READING:	<div>REQUIRED READING:</div> <div>Coker, Jerry (1964). <i>Improvising Jazz</i>. Simon & Schuster Inc. New York.</div> <div>Crook, Hal (1991). <i>How to improvise: An Approach to Practicing Improvisation</i>. Advance Music, GmbH. Mainz</div>							

INDICATIVE MATERIAL: <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i>	REQUIRED MATERIAL: To be assigned by the instructor RECOMMENDED MATERIAL: N/A
COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Blackboard and an active ACG e-mail account
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	“Band in a Box 2013” by PG Music (PC & Mac) or more recent versions “iReal Pro” (Android & ios)
WWW RESOURCES:	http://www.apassion4jazz.net/improvisation.html http://www.playjazznow.com/improvintro/ http://www.outsideshore.com/music/a-jazz-improvisation-primer/
INDICATIVE CONTENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundamentals of improvisation in theory and practice Rhythm Scales Modes Chords: the triad, diminished chords, extended tones 7ths and 9ths Chord progressions Structuring ideas 2. Recorded performances and listening awareness Listening for structural elements Developing awareness of stylistic aspects 3. Developing practical skills and melodic and rhythmic awareness Developing musical ideas based on scales Developing melodic ideas based on chords 4. Musical communication Call and response 5. Basic Blues and popular song chord progressions