

FORM VERSION: 5/95  
DATE REVISED: 3/99

PALOMAR COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR  
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course       A.A. degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** Music 221 Improvisation

**UNIT VALUE:** 1

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:**

Appropriate language skills.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

**PREREQUISITE:** Music 152

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

A performance course to develop the art of extemporaneous playing. Development of the ability to improvise based on the reading of chord symbols primarily utilized in a jazz-rock setting.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Successful student will:

1. Synthesize the art of jazz improvisation;
2. Perform with other musicians in a rhythm section;
3. Compare and contrast stylistic differences between jazz, rock, and Latin beats;
4. Compare and contrast solo transcriptions of other jazz performers by analyzing musical scores;
5. Analyze and critique through listening of other jazz artists;
6. Identify jazz notational devices.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- I. Construction of a melody
- II. Construction of a jazz chorus
- III. The Blues

- A. 8 bar blues
- B. 12 bar blues
- C. list of blues tunes
- D. blues riffs
- IV. Chord substitution
- V. The II-V-I chord progression
- VI. Turnbacks
- VII. Role of each instrument in the rhythm section
- VIII. Nomenclature of chords
- IX. Major, minor, and modal scales
- X. Discography of jazz recordings
- XI. Development of the ear

**REQUIRED READING:**

Baker, David. Jazz Improvisation. Old Tappan: Maher Publications, 1990.

Musical scores as assigned by instructor.

**SUGGESTED READING:**

None.

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

Skill demonstration is an appropriate substitute for required writing in a performance class. The student's development of musical problem solving and of performance skills are best demonstrated in the context of rehearsal and performance activity.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Students are required to study their scores between rehearsals, applying concepts learned in rehearsal and anticipating problems which will be solved in the next rehearsal.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes  No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

       **telecourse** (Course is taught by televised lessons not under direct supervision of an instructor. Usually some on campus lecture/discussion sessions are required.)

       **mediated instruction** (Instruction is by audio-visual means in various combinations. Usually conducted in a learning resources center not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

       **computer assisted instruction** (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods for determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

1. Participation is defined as (a) the student's attention and contribution to the moment-to-moment activities of rehearsal or performance; (b) his/her application of musical concepts; and (c) her/his conscious effort to achieve the goals defined by the director in rehearsal. **50%**
3. Skill improvement should follow as a result of item #1 in an ensemble **50%**

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**  
YES  NO  Number of times course may be taken for credit  
4.

If yes, identify specific provision of Division 2 section(s)  
55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable.  
58161 ( C ) (2) (A)

**CONTACT PERSON:** Robert Gilson, ext. 2316