

Course name	Fundamentals of Improvisation	ECTS CREDITS	2
Course coordinator	prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Stroińska-Sierant	Credit hours total	30
Faculty of	Instrumental Studies, Historically Informed Performance, Jazz and Pop Music	Course type	lecture / applied course
Institute of	Jazz and Pop Music	Mode of study	full-time programme
Major	Jazz and Pop Music	Profile of study	general academic
Specialisation	Jazz Vocal Studies	Language of instruction	Polish/English
Cycle	First-Cycle Studies	Course group	core

Course placement in the study plan			
Semester 1	15 hours, pass/fail, 1 ECTS	Semester 2	15 hours, pass/fail, 1 ECTS
Semester 3		Semester 4	
Semester 5		Semester 6	

Teacher	prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Stroińska-Sierant
Learning Aims and Objectives	The course aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and enhance musical imagination, creativity, and auditory sensitivity • Help acquire and refine skills in jazz improvisation • Expand knowledge of jazz harmony and musical scales and apply it in vocal improvisation • Introduce improvisation methods applicable to various stylistic contexts • Equip the student with tools to study and perform jazz works from different stylistic periods
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge of jazz harmony, as required for the entrance examination • Familiarity with music theory, notation, and structural elements of a musical work

COURSE CONTENT	
Semester 1	The course covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jazz harmony symbols and their interpretation • Basic chord types and their characteristics • Fundamental rhythmic patterns and their use in jazz improvisation • The blues scale and blues form • Pentatonic scales and their application in improvisation
Semester 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church modes and their use in jazz improvisation • Other musical scales and their application in improvisation • II–V–I cadences: improvisation in various keys using all learned scales • Analysis of selected jazz recordings and transcriptions
Semester 3	
Semester 4	
Semester 5	
Semester 6	

	Learning outcome reference code	LEARNING OUTCOMES	Descriptors	
			PQF STAGE 2	PQF STAGE 1
Knowledge	JiME_W11	The student knows and understands: Aspects of practical application of harmony and related methods of analysis pertaining to the performed repertoire	PS6_WG	P6U-W
	JiME_W07	Music styles and their corresponding performance traditions		
Skills		The student is able to:	P6S_UU	P6U_U
	JiME_U01	Engage their intuition, emotionality, creativity and imagination in the area of artistic expression		
	JiME_U02	Define mutual relationships between the means of artistic expressions applied for a given work and its message		
Competence	JiME_U11	Utilise technical proficiency to deliver a professional musical performance and identify technical challenges specific to each instrument (such as tonality, precision etc.)	P6S_KO	P6U_K
	JiME_K07	Cooperate on and integrate into team projects as well as organisational and artistic tasks related to a variety of cultural events		
	JiME_K09	Present their own artistic activities purposefully and in a professional manner		

TEACHING METHODS

Case study analysis, addressing artistic challenges, Individual work, Group work and collaborative exercises, Presentation and analysis of audio and video recordings (CD/DVD)

LEARNING OUTCOME VERIFICATION METHODS

Final requirements – successfully completed year, grading criteria	Learning outcome reference code
Practical exam	JiME_W11 JiME_W07, JiME_U02, JiME_U11, JiM_K07, JiME_K09

ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

Course Completion Requirements	To complete the course the student is required to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend classes regularly • Submit set assignments • Practice through theoretical and practical exercise

STUDENT WORKLOAD	Credit hours total	ECTS CREDITS
Contact hours with the instructor <i>(in-class contact, consultation hours)</i>	30	2
Hours of independent student work <i>(preparing for classes, tests, exams, presentations or project concerts)</i>	20	

Recommended reading

- Aebersold, Jamey. *Jazz Play-A-Long*. Vols. 1–60. New Albany: Jamey Aebersold, 1967–1992.
- Olszewski, Wojciech K. *Podstawy harmonii we współczesnej muzyce jazzowej i rozrywkowej*. Kraków: PWM, 2009.
- Olszewski, Wojciech K. *Sztuka improwizacji jazzowej*. Kraków: PWM, 2012.
- Stoloff, Bob. *Scat! Improvisation Vocal Technique*.
- *The Real Book*. Vols. 1–3. Petaluma: Sher Music Co., 1988–1995.

Supplementary reading

On-line resources (optional)

- recordings and transcriptions available online