

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for MUS 18A

JAZZ/POP PIANO 1

Effective: Fall 2016

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 18A — JAZZ/POP PIANO 1 — 1.00 units

Voicings, chords, and guidelines for interpretation of lead sheets in a variety of genres for the contemporary pianist. Emphasis on improvisation, accompaniment, bass lines, grooves, and reharmonization.

1.00 Units Lab

Strongly Recommended

MUS 21A - Beginning Piano
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

Family: Music Jazz/Pop Piano

	MIN
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. MUS21A

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. define jazz musical symbols and terminology;
- B. sightread jazz and pop piano literature;
- C. identify different formal structures of jazz and pop piano literature;
- D. demonstrate the standard approach to jazz piano performance;
- E. demonstrate the standard approach to pop piano performance;
- F. transpose several compositions to accommodate vocal ranges;
- G. construct and reharmonize jazz voicings
- H. perform jazz and pop piano literature using lead sheets.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Jazz/pop musical symbols and terminology
- B. Reading jazz/pop piano literature
- C. Jazz/pop Forms
 - 1. Blues
 - 2. Rhythm changes
 - 3. Doo-Wop changes
- D. Standard approach to piano performance
 - 1. Proper finger position
 - 2. Posture
- E. Transposition of several compositions
 - 1. Use of roman numerals
- F. Jazz Chords
 - 1. Major 7ths Minor 7ths
 - 2. Dominant 7ths
 - 3. Extensions
- G. Jazz and pop piano literature
- H. Transcription of solos and performances by famous pianists.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Discussion** -
- B. **Demonstration** -
- C. In-class performance
- D. **Classroom Activity** -
- E. **Lecture** -
- F. **Audio-visual Activity** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

Typical Assignments

- A. Memorize all major 7th's, minor 7th's, and dominant 7th's in different positions.
- B. Outline a formal design of both a jazz and pop composition.
- C. Transpose a simple chord progression in all 12 keys

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Quizzes
- 2. Projects
- 3. Lab Activities
- 4. Final Performance
- 5. Other:
Outside Practice

B. **Frequency**

Weekly monitoring of outside practice.

Monthly quizzes

Two performances per semester. One will be in lieu of a Mid-Term, the other in lieu of a Final exam.

Two transcription projects per semester

Monthly in-class lab performances for classmates

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Levine, Mark. *How to Voice Standards at the Piano: The Menu*. 1st ed., Sher Music Co., 2014.
- 2. Harrison, Mark. *Piano Styles of 23 Pop Masters: Secrets of the Great Contemporary Players*. 1st ed., Hal Leonard, 2013.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: