

***University of Southern California***  
***Thornton School of Music***  
**Jazz Elements II (Fall 2021)– MUJZ 395**

**Instructor:**

Professor Alan Pasqua  
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 Office Hours: by appointment

**Course Credit:** 4 units

**Course Chair:** Jason Goldman

**Course Description:** This course will examine advanced elements and techniques of jazz improvisation, composition, and small group performance. It is designed to build upon the foundation acquired in Jazz Elements I. We will discuss and explore more advanced theories and concepts on time, interval versus linear improvisation, ear training techniques, composition, sight reading and motif development. These concepts will be studied through the compositions of our great jazz artists.

**Course Objective:** This course is designed to give the improviser a new set of tools that will not only increase proficiency, but also encourage the development and maturation of each player's unique and individual voice.

**Textbooks:** "The Diminished Cycle", by Alan Pasqua, and "The Architecture of Music", by Alan Pasqua, available online. Not required, but very useful.

*Depending on the proficiency level of the class, the following aspects of jazz improvisation will be addressed in a manner appropriate to that level:*

**Weeks 1-15**

**Wayne, Trane and Larry Young**

**PART 1: Larry Young and John Coltrane**

1. **Zoltan:** Larry's concept revolutionized the Hammond Organ. No one had ever ventured into the pentatonic/intervallic style of writing and improvising on organ before Larry Young. Groundbreaking.
2. **26-2:** One of my very favorite contrafacts on Confirmation and one of the most difficult tunes utilizing the Coltrane matrix. Be prepared to play in different keys.

**PART 2: Wayne Shorter**

1. **Lost:** Great  $\frac{3}{4}$  composition. Modal, also uses augmented root based harmony as well as slash chords.
2. **Rio:** Through composed 14 bar composition that feels totally complete! We will examine both of Wayne's pieces in depth and study his compositional logic.

**This semester, there also will be 1 composition due at the end of the semester. We will play every composition.**

**Segment 1: Zoltan**

**Segment 2: 26-2**

**Segment 3: Lost**

**Segment 4: Rio**

**ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS DUE: 11/29**

**Homework, Projects, Out-of-class Preparation:** There will be weekly assignments, as well as out-of-class listening and practicing required. In order to attain satisfactory standing in this class, approximately four to five hours per week of out-of-class preparation are recommended.

**Grading Criteria:**

- A (90-100) Superior, Exceptional; control of course material enables excellent production.
- B (80-89) Good; grasp of material enables above-average production.
- C (70-79) Average; assimilation of material enables acceptable production.
- D (60-69) Below Average; exposure to material enables poor, but passable production
- F (below 60) Not Passing; assimilation of material insufficient to demonstrate acceptable productive capacity

**Final Grade Determination:** The final grade will be determined by considering the following components at the indicated weights:

30%	Proficiency and ability to grasp material quickly
45%	Composition / sight reading / transcription / improvisation
15%	Final Project
10%	Class participation

***Late Assignments: Please note that late assignments will NOT be accepted under any circumstances.***

**Attendance Policy:** *If a third unexcused absence occurs before the withdrawal deadline, the instructor may withdraw the student from the course. If the third unexcused absence occurs after the withdrawal deadline, a course grade of F will result.*

### **Disability Statement:**

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is 213/740-0776.

### **Statement on Academic Integrity**

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. *Scampus*, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: <http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/>. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/>.

### **Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis**

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies.

## Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

"This course is being offered in an in-person modality. Please be attentive to the class attendance policy found in this syllabus. Online alternatives will not be considered unless I am presented with a directive from the offices of Student Health or Student Affairs. However, if on any day you are ill or otherwise cannot complete Trojan Check to produce a valid Campus Day Pass, stay home. In that case, contact me to make up work or otherwise maintain contact with the class."

## Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

### Academic Conduct:

**Plagiarism** – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" [policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b](http://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, [policy.usc.edu/research-and-scholarship-misconduct](http://policy.usc.edu/research-and-scholarship-misconduct).

### Support Systems:

**Counseling and Mental Health** - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

[studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling](http://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling)

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP)** - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours – 24/7 on call

[studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault](http://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault)

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

**Office of Equity, Equal Opportunity and Title IX** - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298

[eeotix.usc.edu](http://eeotix.usc.edu)

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

**Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment** - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

[usc-advocate.symlicity.com/care\\_report](https://usc-advocate.symlicity.com/care_report)

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

***The Office of Student Accessibility Services - (213) 740-0776***

[osas.usc.edu](https://osas.usc.edu)

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

***USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710***

[campussupport.usc.edu](https://campussupport.usc.edu)

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

***Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101***

[diversity.usc.edu](https://diversity.usc.edu)

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

***USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call***

[dps.usc.edu](https://dps.usc.edu), [emergency.usc.edu](https://emergency.usc.edu)

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

[LiveSafe Mobile Safety App](#)

[TrojansAlert Emergency Notification System](#)

***USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call***

[dps.usc.edu](https://dps.usc.edu)

Non-emergency assistance or information.

***Thornton Emergency Services***

Thornton Emergency Response Team: If evacuation or other actions are needed, members of the Thornton Emergency Response Team will provide verbal instructions.

Thornton Business Continuity Team: Multi-channel messages will be sent to your phone, text, and email providing next steps in the case of an emergency or significant unexpected disruption to facilities or operations.