

University of Connecticut Music Department
Applied Music Lessons...Jazz Saxophone
MUSI 1221, 1222, 3222

Instructor: John Mastroianni

Office Location: MU 117

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday; 11:00-12:00 (by arrangement)

Phone: (860) 486-4796

Email: john.mastroianni@uconn.edu

Website: www.mastymusic.com

Course Description/Objectives: Applied lessons are designed to meet the individual needs of all saxophonists while strictly adhering to the highest performance standards as set forth by the UConn Jazz Studies program. The primary goal of the UConn saxophone studio is the study of saxophone fundamentals that will develop skills, musicianship, and pedagogical concepts. Emphasis shall be placed on establishing a strong foundation in understanding and mastering the saxophone through music making. By using a performance based approach and independent study, students will:

- Gain in-depth knowledge of the saxophone from a performance perspective
- Be able to discuss the historical significance of the saxophone in relation to the music being studied
- Study and perform a variety of repertoire in the jazz idiom
- Develop the necessary skills through various technical, sound, intonation, articulation, and improvisation studies

Course Length: Fall/Spring Semesters 2021-2022

Class Meetings: Fifty minutes per week by arrangement.

Required Materials:

- Saxophone
- A manuscript book that is dedicated to this course
- Select Method books and resources (i.e. etudes, transcribed solos, recordings)
- Tuner
- Metronome

***Each student is responsible for the proper care and maintenance of your instrument, mouthpiece, reeds, tuner, etc.)

Scope and Sequence **(subject to change to meet individual needs)**

A weekly lesson shall consist of, but not be limited to the following components:

- Sound development
- Development of technique
- Tune memorization and review
- Solo transcription and analyzation, imitation, and assimilation

Grading:

Each week the student shall be given specific assignments in writing from each of the components above. The components above will inform a daily practice routine that will be specified by the instructor. The expected degree of weekly progress for each assignment will be clearly articulated. In most cases, assignments will be designed so that completion and attained mastery (not mere progress) within one week is manageable.

By the end of the semester, the expectation is that the student shall memorize six jazz standards. The student will be expected to: play the melody, sing the root motion, arpeggiate the chords, play the appropriate jazz scales for each chord, and provide a harmonic analysis and improvise on the song form in a manner that clearly demonstrates an understanding of the harmonic progression. Upon memorization of a standard, the song will be added to the student's "Songs I Know" list. Each week the instructor shall choose one standard from this list for the student to play from memory to ensure that the student is reviewing the tunes in an effort to retain them. The standards to be memorized shall be mutually agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

Weekly assignments will constitute 80% of the final grade.

At the end of the semester, a jury will be scheduled that shall be adjudicated by the jazz faculty.

The jury will constitute 20% of the final grade.

Please note the following University policies.

<http://catalog.uconn.edu/academic-regulations/grade-information/#attendance>

<http://policy.uconn.edu/2011/05/24/people-with-disabilities-policy-statement/>

<http://policy.uconn.edu/2013/08/07/policy-against-discrimination-harassment-and-inappropriate-romantic-relationships/>

<http://catalog.uconn.edu/academic-regulations/grade-information/#exam-absence>

<http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-preamble/>

It is the responsibility of all students to acquaint themselves, and to adhere to all university policies. Please visit: <https://policy.uconn.edu>

Please be certain to follow all safety protocols and to keep current with university communications regarding COVID-19.

Some useful telephone numbers:

- **Counseling and Mental Health Services:** 486-4705 (after hours: 486-3427)
www.cmhs.uconn.edu
- **Career Services:** 486-3013 www.career.uconn.edu
- **Alcohol and Other Drug Services:** 486-9431 www.aod.uconn.edu
- **Dean of Students Office:** 486-3426 www.dos.uconn.edu