

Music 361/Section 0459 SPRING/2016
“Commercial Piano Techniques”
MW 12:10 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. CH 205

Instructor: Mr. David Stahl
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Text: Essentials of JAZZ THEORY (complete) by Shelton Berg, published by Alfred, manuscript paper

*** faculty.lacitycollege.edu/stahldq * website has all the material for handouts and info**

Description and Objectives: The intermediate piano student will be introduced to the jazz and pop oriented standard repertoire of songs. Chord voicings, comping chords and rhythms, the blues, the walking bass and basic improvisation will be covered. Students will play arrangements of songs, preferably from a lead sheet but may also play from written out arrangements. The basic concepts of jazz harmony and some technical studies will complete the course.

The SLO (Student Learning Outcome) for this class are: Arrange a commercial song with stylistically appropriate bass line and chords **AND** arrange a commercial song with improvisational solos.

Written work: There are worksheets and tests from the text that will be done throughout the semester.

Drills: There will be exercises and scales taught which are to be played at the keyboard. These will reinforce the student's technical ability to execute the songs and improvisations in the repertoire.

Repertoire: There will be two class performances during the semester, preferably from memory, for the mid-term and for the final. There will be suggested repertoire and/or the student can suggest his own ideas for repertoire (including ensemble performances), but they must be approved by the instructor. The DAYTIME public concert for the music 152 class will be Tuesday, May 3rd (with the guitar ensemble class). The EVENING concert will be Thursday, May 12 (with classical music performances, too.)

The class is repeatable three times.

Grading: The student will be expected to perform for the mid term and for the final. The student will be expected to adequately perform the keyboard drills. There will be 2 to 3 written tests in the semester. Absences and being tardy can lower your grade. The following gives a basis for the grading.

Grades: 10% attendance and class participation; 40% written tests; 50% performances (in class and/or in public)

The final exam will be on Wednesday June 1, 2016; 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in CH 205
Last day to add: 2/19, Drop w/o fee or a “W”: 2/21, with a ‘W’: 5/8/2016