

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

**Instructor:** John Mastroianni

**Office Location:** MU 117

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday; 11:00-12:00 (virtually by arrangement)

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**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 Semester 2020 (13 weeks)

**Class Meetings:** Fifty minutes per week by arrangement. Lessons will be taught online via Google Duo, Google Meets, or WebEx.

**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.**

- Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Related Interpersonal Violence—The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors. Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which

people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. In addition, inappropriate amorous relationships can undermine the University's mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate amorous relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University. Additionally, to protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking involving a student that they witness or are told about to the Office of Institutional Equity. The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness. Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help. More information is available at [equity.uconn.edu](http://equity.uconn.edu) and [titleix.uconn.edu](http://titleix.uconn.edu).

- **Attendance**—UConn has a unique attendance policy: Where grades depend on classroom participation, absences may affect the student's grade. However, if a student were absent and the instructor reduced the grade, the reduction would be due to lack of class participation, not the student's absence. Except for final examinations, instructors have final authority in permitting students to submit assignments late or make up examinations. Students should contact their instructor with any questions.
- **Student Conduct Code**—Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with UConn's Student Conduct Code.
- **Academic Integrity Statement**—This course expects all students to act in accordance with the Guidelines for Academic Integrity at the University of Connecticut. Because questions of intellectual property are important to the field of this course, we will discuss academic honesty as a topic and not just a policy. If you have questions about academic integrity or intellectual property, you should consult with your instructor. Additionally, consult UConn's guidelines for academic integrity.
- **Copyright**—In accordance with the Office of the Attorney General in Storrs, my lectures, notes, handouts, and displays are protected by state common law and federal copyright law. They are my own original expression and I've recorded them prior or during my lecture in order to ensure that I obtain copyright protection. Students are authorized to take notes in my class; however, this authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use. I will inform you as to whether you are authorized to record my lectures at the beginning of each semester. If you are so authorized to record my lectures, you may not copy this recording or any other material, provide copies of

either to anyone else, or make commercial use of them without prior permission from me.

- **Students with Disabilities**—The University of Connecticut is committed to protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and assuring that the learning environment is accessible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. Students who require accommodations should contact the Center for Students with Disabilities, Wilbur Cross Building Room 204, (860) 486-2020, or <http://csd.uconn.edu/>.
- **Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences**—Note that UConn does not have an attendance policy (except in relation to the final exam); students will be allowed to make up work for excused absences.
- **Final Exam Policy**— In accordance with UConn policy, students are required to be available for their final exam and/or complete an assessment during the time stated. If you have a conflict with this time you must obtain official permission to schedule a make-up exam with the Dean of Students. If permission is granted, the Dean of Students will notify the instructor. Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, graduations, social events, misreading the assessment schedule, and oversleeping are not viable reasons for rescheduling a final.

**Please be certain 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](http://www.cmhs.uconn.edu)
- **Career Services:** 486-3013 [www.career.uconn.edu](http://www.career.uconn.edu)
- **Alcohol and Other Drug Services:** 486-9431 [www.aod.uconn.edu](http://www.aod.uconn.edu)
- **Dean of Students Office:** 486-3426 [www.dos.uconn.edu](http://www.dos.uconn.edu)

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