



COURSE OUTLINE

TERM: Spring 2017	COURSE NO: JAZZ 241
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE NAME: Counterpoint
OFFICE: LOCAL:	SECTIONS: COURSE CREDITS: 1.5

COURSE FORMAT: Two lecture hours per week for 15 weeks.

PREREQUISITE: JAZZ 231 with grade of C- or higher

MISSION STATEMENT: *The Capilano University Jazz Studies Program seeks to foster students' comprehensive abilities in jazz performance and composition within the context of an enriched liberal arts education. Our goal is to develop musicians who understand and value the rich history and traditions of jazz, who will be prepared to contribute to the evolution and growth of the art form in the future, and who will be equipped to engage creatively with current trends in music.*

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course develops aural and theoretical awareness of counterpoint and its basic importance in many types of music, including jazz. The purpose of all activities is to leave the student with an understanding of how to combine two melodies while maintaining vertical control and creating a desired harmonic effect. Detailed study of 18th century tonal counterpoint and practical composition exercises in that style are the primary means of learning in the course.

**STUDENT LEARNING
OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand the importance of rule systems to govern vertical intervals between melodies;
- demonstrate through composition their understanding of the system governing 18th century tonal counterpoint;
- imagine alternative rule systems which might be used to create different types of contrapuntal music;
- demonstrate through composition their understanding of harmonic and voice-leading implications of compound melodies;
- compose or complete two-part, imitative or non-imitative contrapuntal passages or short pieces, based upon given melodies, harmonic progressions and/or intervallic frameworks;
- use 1:1, 2:1, 4:1 and freely combined levels of diminution;
- recognize the diverse roles of bass and treble lines in different musical situations;
- understand the basic principles of imitative counterpoint at the octave and recognize the potential for imitation in given melodies, including some jazz standard tunes;
- recognize basic contrapuntal devices and their roles in various types of phrases.

REQUIRED TEXT: Benjamin, Thomas. *The Craft of Tonal Counterpoint*. New York: Routledge, 2003.

COURSE CONTENT:

Unit	Topics
I	Explorations: counterpoint in the 18 th c. and beyond; studies in single line construction.
II	Principles of two-voice writing. Assignment #1.
III	Composition of binary dance forms. Assignment #2.
	Midterm exam
IV	Variation Forms: the passacaglia and chaconne. Assignment #3.
V	Composition of imitative counterpoint and canons. Assignment #4.
VI	Composing two-part inventions.
	Final project to be submitted during exam period.

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Assignments (4 x10%)	40%
Midterm Exam.....	25%
Final Project.....	30%
Professional Behaviour.....	5%
TOTAL	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90-100%	B+ = 77-79%	C+ = 67-69%	D = 50-59%
A = 85-89%	B = 73-76%	C = 63-66%	F = 0-49%
A- = 80-84%	B- = 70-72%	C- = 60-62%	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

University Policies: Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Professional Behaviour: Punctuality and regular attendance are required at all classes. To receive full marks in the Professional Behaviour portion of the Evaluation Profile, full participation in all class activities is expected, as is respectful behaviour towards fellow students and the instructor. Students who do not meet these standards may be advised to drop the course and consider re-taking it in the future when they are able to commit to it more appropriately.

"I" Grades: "I" grades will be given only if a doctor's certificate of illness is provided. In addition, the student concerned must submit a *written request* for approval to the instructor prior to the last regular class in the course.

Emergency Procedures: Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the emergency procedures on the wall of the classroom.