

Jazz Improvisation 1 PREREQUISITE SKILLS

Jazz Improvisation I is not for beginners! Since the expectations and requirements of this course are standardized, certain requisite skills are essential for success in this class.

Scales: Students must be able to play **major scales** (on their instrument) in all **12 keys** from memory.
Students must be able to play **minor scales** from memory.

Theory: Students must have a working knowledge of **roman numeral analysis**. This means to know the concept of diatonic harmony and be able to readily analyze basic harmonic progressions.

Reading: Students must be able to read music for their instrument.

Style: It is helpful if the student has familiarity with jazz music. Listening to recordings is the most expedient way to gain this familiarity.

The primary material used in this class are Jamey Aebersold play-along CDs, volumes 43 and 56. Many music stores carry these. Glenn's Music in downtown Manhattan has them available.

Vocalists: **This is an instrumental course** and vocalists are required to perform coursework on the **piano** if the vocalist has no other secondary instrument.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- 1. As the title of this course implies, jazz music is the only style covered in this class. Be prepared to focus on jazz.**
- 2. This is a competency-based course. In other words, your ability to play will determine your grade. Of course, this requires that you attend all classes as well.**