university of southampton

JAZZ TECHNIQUES: IMPROVISATION & ARRANGING

COURSE LINKS:

JAZZ THEORY

COMPOSITION & ARRANGING

COMMERCIAL COMPOSITION

JAZZ & POP PERFORMANCE

PETE THOMAS

## GENERAL Schedule Assessment

blues

IMPROVISATION
daily warmup
diatonic exercises
dorian
tonic

ARRANGING
instrument ranges
transposition chart
Logic template
reharmonisation
block voicing
block voicing (2)
backings
drum parts

Home



piano and guitar

walking bass

hints and tips

## ARRANGING PROJECT (40%) - Deadline Friday of week 12

MC20b to arrange two choruses, MC 30b to arrange three choruses of a 32 bar standard tune for jazz orchestra. Show understanding of elements of arranging discussed in class, handouts and further study (see below:reading list). If possible arrange on Logic with GM sounds - not essential but may prove useful in tutorials for getting more feedback Include the following elements:

- Original or derived intro/coda material
- Piano/gtr guide (chords and cues)
- Walking bass
- Basic drum notation
- Unison, two-part and four-part voicing for sections and/or mixed combo
- Close and open voicing
- Section soli passage (8 bars)
- Solosection with riff and sustained accompaniment
- Sections combined into ensemble (8 bars)

*Italic* = criteria for MC30B

The tune must be approved by course tutors by Thursday week 8. A short commentary must be submitted (200-500 words).

Reading list (reserve section)

- Composing for the Jazz Orchestra -William Russo (2 copies)
- Jazz Arranging and Performance Practice Paul Rinzler
- Professional Arranger Composer Russell Garcia
- The Essentials of Instrumentation Brad Hansen
- Sounds and Scores Henry Mancini

## **IMPROVISATION ASSESSMENT (40%)**

The final assessment will take place in the exam period. You will need to prepare approximately 3-4 minutes of music, of which 2 minutes should be improvised. You can use a backing track (either one that is supplied by the course, a commercially available playalong CD or one you have prepared yourself) or live accompaniment. The general musical style should fit with those