



# **AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

## **Master of Music – Jazz Studies**

### **Performance or Music Production Majors**

**\* Updated September 2017 \***

**There is an expected minimum proficiency level for entry into the graduate jazz studies program at the University of Central Oklahoma. This expectation will be held to a slightly higher level for performance majors in contrast with music production majors in which a greater emphasis will be placed on overall versatility and potential.**

**Detailed information including admission requirements, the entrance advisory exam, and educational objectives can be found online here:**

**<http://www.ucojazzlab.com/files/pdfs/MMjazzstudies.pdf>**

**All applicants to the Master of Music in Jazz Studies Program must successfully complete a performance audition on his/her primary applied instrument or voice. This audition will include:**

#### **Section 1: Scales & Modes**

- **The applicant will be asked, at random, to play any of the twelve major scales up and down full range at a reasonably quick tempo. Vocalists may use solfege or scat syllables up and down one octave. Drummers will be asked to play on either a mallet instrument or piano.**
- **The applicant will be asked, at random, to play any of the twelve Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, or Locrian major scale modes up and down one octave at a reasonable tempo.**
- **The applicant will additionally be asked to demonstrate a few melodic and harmonic minor scales, pentatonic and blues scales, diminished scales, and whole-tone scales.**

## **Section 2: Arpeggios**

- **The applicant will be asked, at random, to arpeggiate any of the twelve major 9<sup>th</sup>, minor 9<sup>th</sup>, and dominant 9<sup>th</sup> chords up and down. Vocalists may use solfege or scat syllables in a few comfortable keys. Drummers will be asked to play on either a mallet instrument or piano.**
- **The applicant will additionally be asked to demonstrate diminished and augmented arpeggios full range. This is not applicable to vocalists.**

## **Section 3: Solo Transcription**

- **The applicant will be asked to perform a solo transcription (32 bars minimum) for their instrument/voice drawn from a recognized major jazz artist. Please provide two copies of the written transcription.**

## **Section 4: Jazz Performance & Improvisation**

- **The applicant will be asked to perform two contrasting jazz standards. One should be more technically oriented and the other should be more lyrically oriented, such as a common jazz ballad. On both tunes the applicant should play the melody and then improvise over the chord changes. Vocalists must provide accompaniment, either in the form of a play-a-long or accompanist. See special instructions below for Pianists, Guitarists, Bassists, and Drummers.**

## **Section 5: Sight-Reading**

- **The applicant will be asked to sight-read written notation in a jazz style. Guitarists and pianists will also be expected to sight-read standard chord changes and comp in an appropriate jazz style. Bassists will be expected to walk a bass line while reading changes. Drummers will be expected to read a typical jazz ensemble chart demonstrating appropriate rhythmic figures and set-ups as indicated. Vocalists will be asked to read written lyrics and instrumental lines using either solfege or scat.**

## **Section 6: Interview**

- **Faculty will ask questions regarding the applicant's educational and musical goals. The applicant will be given the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the program. A tour of the UCO Jazz Lab facility will be provided.**

### **Special Instructions for Guitarists:**

**Guitarists will be expected to demonstrate proficiency comping in various styles and should also perform one selection as a solo chord/melody arrangement from the standard jazz repertoire.**

### **Special Instructions for Pianists:**

**Pianists will be expected to demonstrate proficiency comping in various styles with two-handed voicings and should also perform one selection as a solo piano arrangement from the standard jazz repertoire.**

### **Special Instructions for Bassists:**

**Bassists will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in jazz bass line construction. Bassists will also be asked to demonstrate various styles and grooves on both acoustic and electric over static harmony. Finally, bassists will be asked to demonstrate proficiency in an odd meter (either 5/4 or 7/4) over a standard chord progression.**

### **Special Instructions for Drummers:**

**Drummers will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of percussion rudiments and examples of the following common styles using both sticks and brushes at various tempi: Be-Bop, Jazz Waltz, Bossa-Nova, Samba, Afro-Cuban, Funk, Rock, Shuffle, and Jazz Ballad. Additionally, drummers will be expected to perform a jazz standard by rhythmically outlining the melody and then improvising over the song form while keeping track of each section and ending appropriately.**