Studio Jazz Faculty:
Rick Helzer (Piano, Improvisation), Richard Thompson (Piano, Improvisation), John Rekevics (Saxophone), Scott Kyle (Trombone), Bob Magnusson (Bass), Mike Holguin (Drums), Anthony Smith (Vibraphone)

Objectives: The purpose of private instruction is to give the student individualized guidance in the development of conceptual, theoretical and technical skills needed to perform idiomatically and artistically in the jazz idiom.

Student Outcomes: Students who play harmonic/melodic instruments will be fluent in improvising in the jazz idiom, demonstrating performance practice techniques that indicate melodic, harmonic and rhythmic fluency in the jazz idiom. Within the context of private lessons this will be accomplished through the learning of required jazz scales, as they are specified in the Jazz Studies Scale Syllabus, other technical exercises and assigned repertoire for specific assignments. Additionally, private lessons will also include preparation for performance juries and divisional, junior, senior and graduate recitals.
Drum kit students will master all required rhythmic exercises and idioms, sight-reading and drum part (chart) interpretation, transcribed drum kit solos along with analysis of transcribed drum kit solos.

Grading and Evaluation Procedures: The instructor/student relationship in the one-on-one environment of private instruction is somewhat unique from instructor/student relationships in classroom and ensemble rehearsal classes. It is the instructor’s responsibility to direct the student’s required course of work and hold the student accountable to that work via weekly dialog, critiquing and grading.

Grading Parameters
1) Where applicable successfully learning required scales in all keys and maintaining scales learned in prior semesters.
2) Mastering assigned technical and improvisational exercises.
3) Mastering assigned repertoire and any other relevant work (i.e., transcribed solos).

Attendance Policies
To cancel and reschedule a lesson the student must contact his or her instructor with at least a 48-hour notice. Any student who fails to attend a scheduled lesson without prior notice will fail that lesson and will not be offered a make-up lesson.
Consideration will always be given to students for unforeseen emergency situations, including personal health and family issues, in regards to rescheduling make-up lessons. The student will be required to bring documentation to verify medical and family emergencies.