I. **Catalogue Description**

**MU 116 Beginning Improvisation (1 unit)**

Beginning experience in improvisational techniques. Chords, key, scales, melodic and rhythmic application, stylistic devices and procedures necessary to the development of spontaneous and creative soloistic invention. Total credit limited to 6 credits. 1 hour activity. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

II. **Required Background or Experience**

Performance Skill level commensurate with entry level to Lower Division Studio (MU 171 - 180)

III. **Expected Outcomes**

1. Ability to improvise on an elementary level in at least one of the many improvisation modes used in world music cultures.
2. Ability to recognize different patterns of improvisation used by members of the class.

IV. **Text and Readings**


*Jazz Improvisation*, New Sounds in Modern Music, NY (text), D. Baker Music Workshop

Coker, Jerry. *Improvising Jazz* (reprint) Touchtone Books 1986

Coker, Jerry. *Patterns for Jazz*, Studio P/R 1970


Jamey Aebersold Play Along CD’s and related materials.

V. **Minimum Student Materials**

Textbook, notebook(s), music manuscript paper and instrument.

VI. **Minimum College Facilities**
A classroom with audiovisual equipment, piano, desk chairs and stands CD playback, related amps for guitar bass electronic keyboards etc..

VII. Course Outline

1. Review of major, minor, and modal scales in all keys; primary triads.
2. Exploration of improvisation on melodic frameworks.
3. Presentation of improvisation approaches from different systems’ approaches.
4. Exploration of improvisation on harmonies, harmonic progression patterns.
5. Exploration of rhythmic variation in improvisation.

VIII. Instructional Methods

1. Lecture/demonstration
2. Use of audio means of presentation of improvisation approaches.
3. Class participation and performance

IX. Evaluation of Outcomes

1. Weekly graded demonstration of results of explorations in improvisation.
2. Final exam to be an improvisation project created by student and instructor.