INSTRUCTOR: John Castellano  
Contact: 212-741-0091 x103 / johnc@thecollective.edu  
Office hours. 5-6 at The Collective, 541 Ave. of the Americas (btwn. 14th & 15th)

Course Description
This course is designed to help students develop a better understanding of music by presenting the opportunity to experience music as a musician. Students learn basic music theory, develop rudimentary musicianship skills, and use that experience to compose, rehearse and perform original student compositions. The goal is for each student to be able to understand, compose, and perform original contemporary pieces of music in a range of pop and jazz idioms. The workshop meets in a professional, fully equipped music studio, where students have access to a wide variety of musical instruments. The course culminates in a public recital of works written and performed by students.

AREAS OF STUDY:
1. **Musicianship**
   The course includes the study of music theory concepts; from the basics of pitch and rhythm notation through to diatonic scales, triadic chords and simple chord progressions. In addition, students work on developing rudimentary musicianship skills, including reading music notation, and recognizing common pitch and chordal elements.

2. **Song Analysis**
   Students analyze music from the repertoire of important periods of US popular and jazz music. The analysis focuses on form, meter, style, instrumentation, musical textures, lyric content, etc.

3. **Composition, Rehearsal and Performance**
   Students work in small ensembles to compose, rehearse, and perform their music. Initially, groups are assigned compositional challenges, which focus on a particular set of musical parameters. These compositions are performed in class each week, and are critiqued by the instructor and by fellow students. Towards the end of the semester, “final” performance groups are formed with the challenge and opportunity to create a set of compositions to be performed at the semester-end public recital.

4. **Student Papers & Discussions**
   Students will have the opportunity to pick a musical topic and write a brief paper on the subject. Ensuing class discussions will focus on developing the topics presented in the paper.

5. **Public Recital**
   The course will culminate with a student recital of original music, which will be open to the public.
COURSE POLICIES

6. Course Materials
Course materials are supplied by the instructor via weekly emails to the class.

7. Grading Policy
The following represent the weighted value of each aspect of the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Element</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
<th>Detail/Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Attendance:</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1/2 grade deduction after the 3rd absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Assignments:</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Including all weekly assignments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mid-Term Exam:</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Music theory exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Performance Groups</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Participate in a productive manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Final Recital</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Participate in a productive manner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Course Policies and Procedures
A. Please contact me if you will be missing a class. (212) 741-0091 X103 – johnc@thecollective.edu
B. Bring your course material to class - every class until I say not to.
C. Tell me before class, if you have to leave early.
D. Tell before the day that a class meets if you have a conflict with another class. Credits in this situation are not automatically given.)
E. I will send you all the materials you will need in advance - you need only open them, print them out, an bring them to class.
Note: You are scheduled to be in class from 6:20-9pm on Wednesday. Therefore, this class takes precedence over most other NYU activities that may be scheduled by other instructors.

9. Weekly Schedule and Topic List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>TOPIC AREAS</th>
<th>LECTURE / DISCUSSIONS</th>
<th>PERFORMANCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
<td>1. Elements of Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Notation (rhythm)</td>
<td>1. How we got here – musically</td>
<td>individual performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Notation (pitch)</td>
<td>2. Western European music</td>
<td>individual performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Key Signatures</td>
<td>4. New Orleans</td>
<td>group assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Mid-Term Review</td>
<td>5. Class member presentation</td>
<td>group assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Triads</td>
<td>6. Class member presentation</td>
<td>group assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Triads</td>
<td>7. Class member presentation</td>
<td>group assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Set Up Final Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td>final group piece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX.</td>
<td>No class – Thanksgiving Eve</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Groups meet together &amp; separately</td>
<td></td>
<td>final group pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Final Performance</td>
<td></td>
<td>final groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Academic Integrity
"As a Gallatin student you belong to an interdisciplinary community of artists and scholars who value honest and open intellectual inquiry. This relationship depends on mutual respect, responsibility, and integrity. Failure to uphold these values will be subject to severe sanction, which may include dismissal from the University. Examples of behaviors that compromise the academic integrity of the Gallatin School include plagiarism, illicit collaboration, doubling or recycling coursework, and cheating. Please consult the Gallatin Bulletin or Gallatin website (http://gallatin.nyu.edu/academics/policies/integrity.html)"
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PERFORMANCE I
New Student Questionnaire
revised: 9/1/15

Name: _______________________________ S.I.D. ______________________

Cell: ______________________ NYU E-mail______________________________

1. What do you hope to get out of this course? _________________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

2. Describe your musical experience, if any, to date. ______________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

3. Do you play or have access to an instrument? If so, which one(s)?
   ______________________________________________________________

4. Which types or genres of music do you listen to, and who are some of your
   favorite artists?
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

5. Are there any specific musical topics or concepts that you would like to study?
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

6. Please use this space for additional comments or questions.
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________