

Independent Study

Independent Study affords junior- and senior-standing students an opportunity to independently undertake special research-oriented projects extending above and beyond the parameters of the curriculum.

Students may apply up to 4 elective credits to Independent Study. Students interested in pursuing Independent Study are required to submit a proposal in writing to the Dean of Instruction outlining the project scope, objectives time frame for completion and their preferred faculty advisor.

Upon approval, students are required to sign a contract with their advisor agreeing to complete the project. A letter grade is issued based upon completion of projected objectives within the proposed timeframe.

Keyboard Proficiency

All students must demonstrate a basic level of keyboard proficiency to graduate, either by completing Beginning Piano for Non-Pianists and Jazz Piano for Non-Pianists, or by passing an equivalent keyboard proficiency exam. Keyboard proficiency exams are given on a to-be-arranged basis throughout the year.

Workshops and Master Classes

Students have the opportunity to attend a broad range of specialized short-term workshops taught by local and visiting artists throughout the year. Previous workshops by visiting faculty include Bobby McFerrin, Geoffrey Keezer, Christian McBride, Kurt Elling, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Nancy King, Ron Carter, Dave Weckl, Nnenna Freelon, Matt Wilson, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Dafnis Prieto, Winard Harper, Taylor Eigsti, Donald Harrison, Uri Caine and others. In addition to attending master classes, students often have the opportunity to schedule private lessons with visiting artists. The cost of private lessons with visiting artists varies and is on a to-be-arranged basis between the student and artist.

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Instrumentalists — The CJC awards the A.A. degree in Jazz Studies to instrumental students who satisfactorily complete 68-70 credits of study divided among: a) core music courses 42 credits (pianists) / 44 credits (non-pianists); b) elective courses (2 credits); and c) general studies courses (24 credits). (See under Curriculum Requirements Templates.)

Vocalists — The CJC awards the A.A. degree in Jazz Studies to vocal students who satisfactorily complete 74 credits of study divided among: a) core courses (48 credits); b) elective courses (2 credits); and c) general studies courses (24 credits). (See under Curriculum Requirements Templates.)

Residency Requirements

Instrumentalists and vocalists are required to complete a minimum of 37 credits in residence during their third and fourth semesters at the CJC.

Juries

Students are required to take two juries over the course of their studies at the CJC: the first at the end of the first year, and the second at the end of the second year. The purpose of these juries is to evaluate students' progress in private instruction, and to confirm their mastery of the material covered in the Jazz Theory and Improvisation and Ear Training and Sight Singing curricula.

Students must take a jury when advancing in class level to continue their studies at the CJC. Class level is determined by the total number of credits earned towards their degree: students who have earned between 0 and 34 credits are considered Freshmen; students who have earned between 35 and 68 Credits are considered Sophomores.

Credits Completed	Class Level
0 – 37	Freshman
38 – 74	Sophomore

Performance

Instrumentalists are required to take a total of 12 credits of performance ensembles including jazz (4), Afro-Caribbean (2), Brazilian (2), Indian (2) and elective (2). Instrumentalists may also use 4 Elective credits toward performance ensembles.

Vocalists are required to take 12 credits of Vocal Performance. Repertoire covers a wide range of styles, from the Great American Songbook to contemporary jazz. Vocalists may use 2 Elective credits toward performance ensembles.

Students perform for the public a minimum of twice per year. Performances include concerts at the CJC, dates at clubs throughout the Bay Area, and appearances at specially scheduled events.

Additionally, students may attend concerts scheduled at the CJC throughout the year, free of charge. The CJC Concert Series features a range of local, national and international artists.

Core Music Courses: Instrumental Track

Instrumentalists are required to take 44 (non-pianists) / 42 (pianists) credits of the following Core Music Courses: 12 credits of stylistically varying performance ensembles over four semesters including: Jazz Repertoire Ensemble (4 credits of PRF100-400 series); Latin American Ensemble (2 credits of PRF030 series); Brazilian Jazz ensemble (2 credits of 040 series); Indian Ensemble (2 credits of 050 series); and an ensemble of their choice (2 credits). (Note: Students may also use 4 Elective credits toward Performance.) Additional required Core courses include: Ear Training and Sight-Singing (12 credits); Keyboard Proficiency (2 credits); Jazz Theory and Improvisation (12 credits); Music Technology (2 credits); and Private Instruction (4 credits).

Core Music Courses: Vocal Track

Vocalists are required to take 48 credits of the following Core Music Courses: Vocal Performance (12 credits); (Note: Students may use 2 Elective credits toward Performance.) Additional required courses include: Ear training and Sight-singing (12 credits); Keyboard Proficiency (2 credits); Jazz Theory and Improvisation (12 credits); The Great American Songbook (2 credits); Lyric Writing (2 credits); Music Technology (2 credits); and Private Instruction (4 credits).

Electives

Instrumentalists — Instrumentalists are required to complete 2 credits of elective courses. Students may transfer up to 2 degree-relevant elective credits from any accredited institution on a by-approval basis by the Dean of Instruction.

Vocalists – Vocalists are required to complete 2 credits of elective courses in fulfillment of requirements for the A.A. degree. Students may transfer up to 2 degree-relevant elective credits from any accredited institution on a by-approval basis by the Dean of Instruction.

General Studies Courses

Students are required to take 24 credits of General Studies courses. General Studies requirements include: English Communication (9 credits); Physics (3 credits); Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (3 credits); and Social Sciences (12 credits). (See Department of General Studies, page 53.)

The CJC accepts the English Communication, Physics, Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning General Studies requirements from any accredited institution. Tuition for General Studies courses at other institutions is additional. Note: the Social Sciences requirement is not transferable from another institution. This requirement must be fulfilled at the CJC.

Keyboard Proficiency

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Workshops and Master Classes

Students have the opportunity to attend a broad range short-term workshops — two, free of charge — taught by local and visiting artists throughout the year. Students may schedule private lessons with visiting artists on a to-be-arranged basis between student and artist.