

Community Music Center: Introduction to Jazz Theory
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www.jkornfeld.net/cmc_jazz_theory.htm
Introduction to Jazz Theory

This is an introduction to some of the basic elements of jazz, including: chords and chord symbols, lead sheet notation, typical chord progressions, melodic construction, forms, and improvisation using scales, modes and other devices. We will divide the eight-weeks together into three general sections: **harmony**, **melody** and **form**. The class will culminate in the composition of a song in the *jazz standard* style, done in a group-effort approach.

Week	Topic & Class Materials (subject to change as the class evolves)	Assignment Due
1: June 22	(Review of) harmony: 7th chords, diatonic 7th chords in major/minor keys; the roman numeral system; lead sheet chord symbols 7th chords <u>Diatonic 7th chords in major and minor keys</u> <u>Diatonic 7th chords - notated</u> <u>Diatonic 7th chords - reference table</u>	(SONG LINKS) <u>Alice In Wonderland</u> <u>All The Things You Are</u> <u>Autumn Leaves</u> <u>Fly Me To The Moon</u> <u>Here's that Rainy Day</u>
2: June 29	<u>Diatonic chords and chord progressions</u> *Focusing on the ii V I progression, or fragments like ii V, or V I	Identifying and writing chords I
3: July 6	More with chords: <u>chord extensions and alterations, chord substitutions and fills*</u> , chord wrap-up *Altering minor 7th chords – making them dominant 7ths *Altering the Imaj7 with a I6 chord *Adding extensions (9th, b9th, #9th), especially to the V chord *Altering the 5th of the V chord	<u>ii V I/i table</u> <u>Identifying chords and progressions in songs</u>
4: July 13	Melody I: <u>melodic structure</u>	<u>Chord alterations and substitutions</u>
5: July 20	Melody II: more with foreground/background and ornamentation; phrasing; modes*	<u>Melody Analysis</u>
6: July 27	Form I: <u>the 32-bar popular/conventional form</u>	<u>Writing a short melody</u>
Aug 3	NO CLASS – JK TRAVELING	
7: Aug 10	Form II: <u>other, less-typical forms; modal styles*</u>	Identifying forms in songs – find a jazz standard and analyze its form
8: Aug 17	Group composition/sharing compositions	Practice song, chords only: <u>score</u> <u>audio</u> Last Day effort: <u>audio</u> <u>score</u>

*time permitting