

Announcements from the Department Chair

*Many thanks to all the students who attended our all-students meeting in week 1. Linked below is a PDF of the handout that was given at the meeting. We'll hold another meeting at **12pm on Friday Feb. 21st in MM 202**. Please let me know if you can't make that time and would like to provide input, and if needed I'll find additional times for drop-in hours or a 3rd meeting this quarter.*

https://zotmail.uci.edu/RTE_uploads/16/handout-musicalstudentsmeeting.pdf

As we discussed in the meeting, the dept. is forming a student advisory group, and we welcome you to self-nominate for that by filling out this form: [LINK HERE](#)

I wish you all a great quarter and look forward to hearing you in many upcoming concerts!

Best,

Michael Dessen

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Spring quarter course updates:

Here are some FYIs about two new courses and other electives this spring:

MUS 191 Tutorial (4 units, taught by Grad Teaching Associate Collin Felter): This course is centered on performance and informed by theory and history, to build foundational skills in jazz improvisation. All music majors are welcome, and no prior experience with jazz is required. Grad will teach it in a hybrid format with one in-person meeting weekly and the rest of the work taking place outside of class.

UNI STU 7 Pilipino Music (1 unit, taught by music major Michael Balerite): Offered through UCI's UTeach program, this course will be taught by and "seeks to answer the question: By tracing the evolution of Original Pilipino Music, the genre which defines Filipino music today, could we create a musicological historical tapestry of the evolution of Philippine society itself?"

"Music and Culture" category electives:

- MUS 78 History of Jazz (Prof. Dawn Norfleet)
- MUS 142W Early Opera (Prof. Stephan Hammel)
- MUS 148 Intro to Persian Music (Prof. Hossein Omoumi)
- MUS 181 Improvisation (Prof. Rajna Swaminathan)

"Theory, Composition, and Technology" category electives:

- MUS 51 Music and Computers (Prof. Kojiro Umezaki)

"Performance and Practice" category electives:

- MUS 197 Word and Music (Prof. Nina Scolnik)

All-students meeting on Friday, Feb. 21:

We'll hold another all-students meeting this quarter, aimed especially at undergrads (though grads are welcome), hosted by the dept. chair and possibly other faculty. Please join us! We'll provide updates on the discussions we've had with students so far about creating a student advisory council and invite discussion on any other topics you'd like to bring.

Friday, Feb. 21st, starting at 12pm in MM 202

Invitation to provide input to external reviewers on Feb. 27

Every ten years, our school undergoes an "external review" in which professors from other universities gather input from students, faculty and staff, and study data and reports about our programs, then write up a review for the campus and school leadership. A session inviting input from all undergrads is tentatively scheduled for 4pm on Thursday Feb. 27, in MM 307. We'll send another reminder closer to the date.

Policy Reminder: UCI is a Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Campus

UCI is committed to providing a healthy working, learning, and living environments for all members of the campus community and its visitors. Smoking-related illness, including those related to tobacco smoke, comprises the largest proportion of preventable diseases. This policy prohibits smoking on all campus properties including all indoor and outdoor areas. Smoking is prohibited everywhere on campus and at properties owned or leased by UCI, including all parking lots. Please see this [webpage](#) for more information.