Unisa – Directorate Music  
Jazz Theory - Grade 6

Harmony (12 credits/120 notional hours)
Syllabus Contents: Major Scale Harmony (quartads) and Modes of the Major Scale. Form and Structure: 12 Bar Jazz Blues and Rhythm Changes. Harmonic substitution principles (Tritone sub, Secondary Dominants), Scalar melody, passing and neighbouring tones, extended chord construction. Common tones and Voice leading.

Outcomes
Candidates should be able to demonstrate an understanding of advanced harmonic principles, be able to superimpose advanced harmonic substitutions over standard harmonic changes, construct a 12 Bar Jazz Blues and Rhythm Changes progression in any key and demonstrate an understanding of key concepts in the jazz language.

Jazz Improvisation: Theory & Concepts (12 credits/120 notional hours)
Syllabus Contents: Language of Jazz Improvisation, Chromaticism, Bebop Style, Swing Feel, Swing eight notes and Swing Groove, extended chords (construction and function), Chord-Scale relationships.

Outcomes
Candidates must demonstrate a good knowledge of the language of jazz improvisation appropriate for the grade, demonstrate knowledge of the bebop style, demonstrate an understanding of swing feel, swing eighth notes and swing groove; understand extended chord construction and function.

Jazz History (12 credits/120 notional hours)
Precursors to Jazz and New Orleans Jazz, Swing Era, Bebop, Early South African Music.

Outcomes
Candidates must demonstrate a thorough understanding of the precursors to jazz and the history of New Orleans Jazz, the Swing Era, Bebop and Early South African Music.

Jazz Arranging Techniques (12 credits/120 notional hours)
Syllabus Contents: Transposition and ranges for big band instruments. Application of various jazz voicing techniques (Four-part voicing, Drop 2, Drop 4). Harmonisation techniques (planing techniques and tonicization), Arranging techniques for small group and large ensemble.

Outcomes
Candidates should be able to generate and /or transpose parts for big band instruments, demonstrate a thorough understanding of various voicing and harmonization techniques and arrange short excerpts for either small group or large ensemble.

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