

ME326 – Improvisation Ensemble

California Institute of the Arts
Syllabus, Spring 2012

Instructor: Andrew Tholl, office B241, thollspring2012@gmail.com
Class Time: Monday, 12:10 – 1:00pm, Wild Beast

Course Description

This course is designed to help the student develop their own unique creative voice within the context of the ensemble through both structured and unstructured improvisational studies. Open to instrumentalists and vocalists. This class may be repeated for credit.

Course Objectives

In this class you will have the opportunity to:

- begin improvising in a safe and supportive environment
- discuss and develop methods and strategies for approaching improvisation
- perform as both a large ensemble and in a smaller ensemble
- demonstrate sensitivity improvising within an ensemble context
- contribute actively in the creation of spontaneous compositions in the moment

Evaluation will be based on:

- **Attendance**
You are expected to attend all class meetings. More than 2 unexcused absences will result in a grade of NX.
- **Participation**
You must make an active contribution to the class
You must participate in the end of semester concert.
- **Assignments**
Each student will be asked to create one “composition” (this term is loose and will be discussed in class) during the course of the semester.
Reading assignments may be given.

Course Policies: Absence from class will not be excused unless you make prior arrangements with the instructor or provide a doctor’s note verifying your inability to attend class. Eating and drinking will be permitted as long as it is not disruptive to the class; this policy may be changed at any time by the instructor.

Please Note: There will be no class on Feb. 6th, Feb. 20th (President’s Day) or Mar. 26th (Spring Break).