



# **LOYOLA HIGH SCHOOL**

## **Secondary V Cross Curricular Improvisation**

**School Year:** 2019 / 2020

**Teacher:** Mr. F. Proietti  
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### **Course Description**

This course concentrates on developing the students' ability in the art of improvisation across several art forms as well as for use in problem solving. Some of the different methods & traditions of improvisation that would be explored, discussed and practiced would be:

- Jazz & Blues based improvisation on any/all instruments.
- Spontaneous prose / stream of consciousness style improvised writing.
- Dramatic and comedic improvised theatre.
- Impromptu speech making.
- Freestyling in the hip hop tradition.
- Push hands and other physical improvisation techniques.

Materials: iPad, musical instrument

### **Evaluations:**

Most evaluations would be done in class, assessing improvised performances, but an online journal will also be assessed. A final paper being a summary of the journal entries will be submitted at the end of the year. As well, students will be expected to attend one event outside of school that involves improvisation. Several will be suggested by the teacher, but students can make their own suggestions as well.

### **Term 1 evaluations (20%):**

Music: Improvise over a 1-chord song, chosen from among the chords assigned in class.

Words: Deliver a 70-90 second speech, on a teacher selected topic, seamlessly including 3 words also chosen by the teacher.

Physical: "Pierce the heart", "protect the fort" and "arm bar", both hands, with the teacher.

### **Term 2 evaluations (20%):**

Music: Improvise over a 12 bar blues progression, chosen from among the keys assigned in class.

Words: Team improv. 2 players (not chosen in advance) 90-120 seconds. Drama/Comedy randomly selected.

Physical: "Push hands" with the teacher, switching and moving.

### **Term 3 evaluations (60%):**

Music: Improvise over an "I Got Rhythm" chord progression, chosen from among the keys assigned in class. Bonus points for doing it above 180 BPM.

Words: Deliver a 90-150 second spoken word piece, including both rhyme & rhythm, and incorporating 3 words chosen by the teacher. Bonus points for doing it over a beat.

Physical: "Push hands" with the teacher, switching and moving, blindfolded

## **Rubrics**

<b>Weekly journals</b>	<b>/10</b>
Answers all of the questions asked	/5
Depth of answers	/5
<b>End of term journal summary</b>	<b>/20</b>
Answers all of the questions asked	/5
Depth of answers	/5
Identifies trends seen throughout the term's entries	/5
Quality of plan proposed for next term	/5
<b>Music performance</b>	<b>/25</b>
Respects tempo	/5
Uses scale(s)	/5
Uses arpeggio(s)	/5
Use of rhythm	/5
Overall statement	/5
<b>Words performance</b>	<b>/25</b>
Respects constraints given	/5
Respects time limit	/5
Avoids clichés	/5
Poise	/5
Overall statement	/5

**Physical performance**

Balance

**/25**

/5

Control

/5

Adaptability

/5

Use of both hands

/5

Poise

/5