

Online Class Technical Requirements and Setup: Students

Minimum technical requirements for SJW Summer Online

- You should use a **laptop or desktop computer** to access class materials and attend class meetings. Tablets and smartphones should only be used for exceptions (if you don't have access to a computer).
- **System requirements on computer:**
 - Mac: macOS X with macOS 10.7 or later
 - PC: Windows 7 or later
- **Minimum Internet Speed:** 50 Mbps (down) / 3 Mbps (up). [Test your speed here.](#)
- **If possible, use an Ethernet cable.**
- **Zoom** software- details below.
- **Headphones** for attending Zoom classes.
- A **printer** to print sheet music.
- **GarageBand** or **Audacity** software (optional- see below) to record your playing.
- **See page 8 - 10 for a list of tools for developing musicians**, recommended by our Faculty and Camp Director. While they are optional, they can be really helpful for studying and practicing jazz!

Overall instruction structure

SJW Summer Online uses the following platforms to facilitate our multidimensional online learning program:

- **Google Classroom** as a portal for information, course materials, announcements, discussions;
- **Google Drive** (Class Drive) for file sharing;
- **Google Calendar** to view class meeting schedule;
- **Zoom** for class meetings, faculty office hours, and practice parties with your peers.

SJW email

To access SJW online courses, you will be given an SJW email and a temporary password after you register. Upon your first login, you'll be prompted to change your password. You will use this account for Google Classroom.

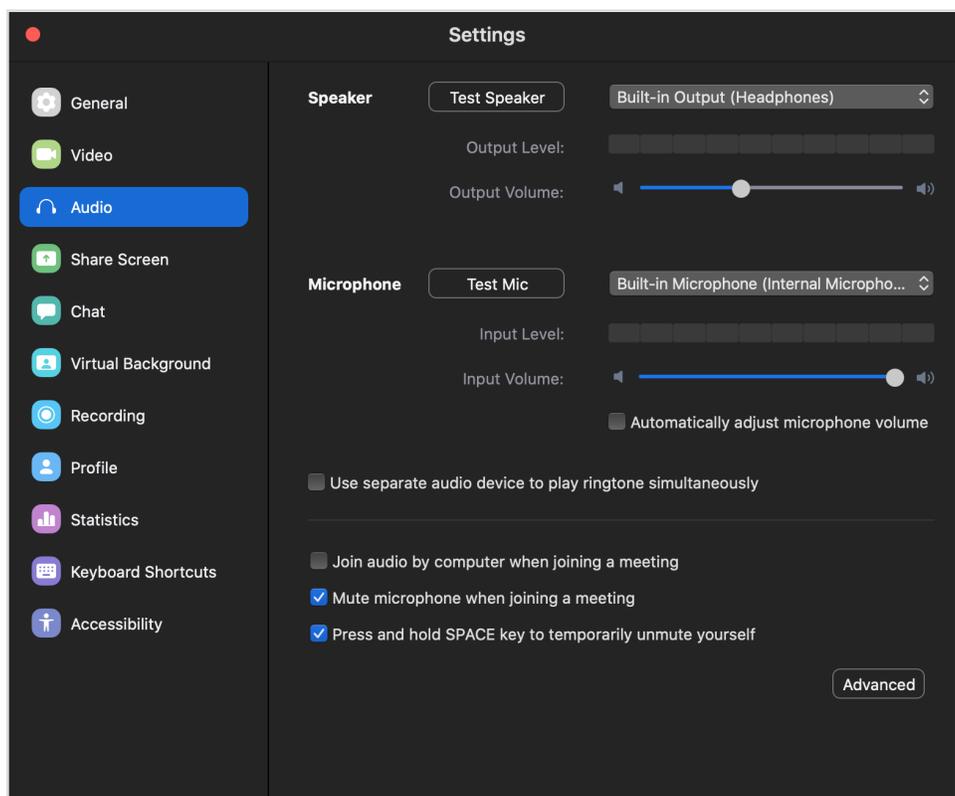
Google Classroom

- Sign in to [Google Classroom](#) with your SJW email at least a day before the class begins.
- The classes you signed up for during registration will be available in Google Classroom. Your teacher will **post course materials, assignments, videos, and quizzes, and Zoom meeting schedules** in **Google Classroom**.
- Any **files shared by your teacher** of a class can be found in **Google Drive**, separated by class.

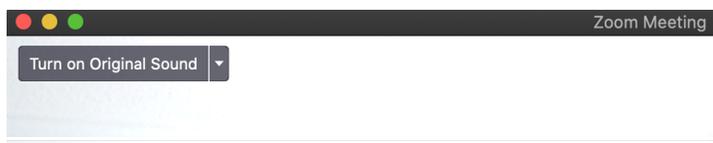
- Your **Zoom class meetings schedule and assignment due dates** can be seen in **Google Calendar**.

Setting Up Zoom for Music Classes

1. [Download Zoom Desktop app](#).
2. Open the Zoom desktop app and log in. (If it's your first time using it, sign up first - it's free.)
3. Upon your first sign in, click on your profile photo then select **Check for Updates** to see if there are any software updates available and install them.
4. After the update, or if there isn't an update available, **click on your profile photo** in the upper right corner, then select **Settings**.
5. Select **Audio** in the settings menu on the left.

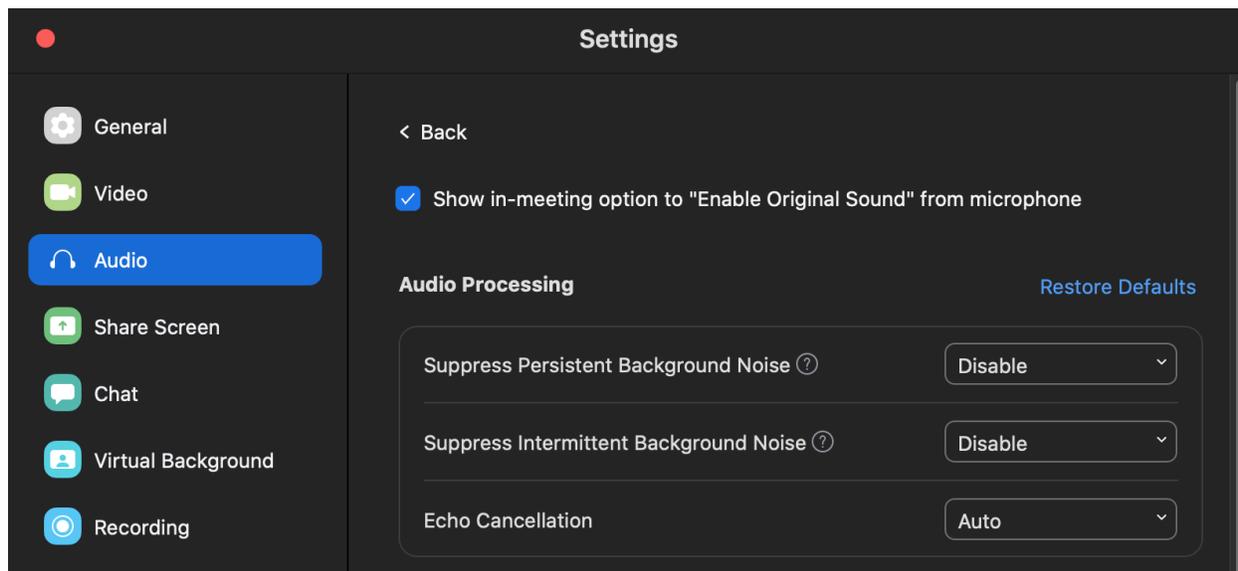


6. On **Microphone** setting, **uncheck** the box next to **Automatically adjust microphone volume**. The box is checked by default to optimize meetings that consist of mostly speech but is not ideal for music lessons.
7. Then click on the **Advanced** button in the bottom right corner.
8. Check the box for **Show in-meeting option to "Enable Original Sound" from microphone**. This setting allows you to turn on/off the original sound during meetings. This is to optimize your audio for instrument sounds instead of speech. Note that you must turn it on manually during a meeting. During a meeting, you'll see a button in the top left corner that says **Turn on**



Original Sound. Click it (turn on) at the beginning of a class meeting.

9. Set **Suppress Persistent Background Noise** to **Disable**.
10. Set **Suppress Intermittent Background Noise** to **Disable**.
11. Set **Echo Cancellation** to **Auto**.



Before and During Zoom Classes

- Be sure to test video/audio **10 minutes prior to the class start time**, you should **test your microphone level while playing or singing**. You can do so by going to **Settings** → **Audio** → **Test Mic**.
- Wear appropriate clothing.
- Close other unrelated programs on your computer, turn off notifications, and other distractions.
- If you use Windows, turn on [Focus Assist mode](#).
- If you use Mac, turn on [Do Not Disturb mode](#).

For tech support or questions, email
tech@stanfordjazz.org or call 650-779-5154

Suggested Equipment for Jazz Camp Online:

The equipment suggestions below are **not required** for participating in Jazz Camp Online, but they will supplement your online learning experience with us this summer. Pre-recorded faculty play-alongs for students will provide a virtual ensemble playing experience, and an introduction to music recording and production. Instruction and added feedback from our faculty members through our "practice party" and "instrumental office hours" sessions are part of the program. This aspect of the program will be shared through **GarageBand** and **Audacity** files. To fully participate in this aspect of the program, students will need to download this free music production software and get set up with basic equipment to record themselves with their computer.

The easiest set up that can work for ALL instrumentalists, vocalists and drummers would be a headphone + microphone pairing. These are plug-in (3.5 audio jack) headphones that have a microphone for talk back which can be used for basic recording. Here are some suggestions below. Please note that wireless headphone / microphone products like AirPods are NOT designed to function for music recording, so unfortunately they won't work for SJW purposes.



Easy option:
[Apple wired headphones + microphone](#)



Better quality option:
[Bose Sound Sport In-Ear headphones + microphone](#)



Drum students might like this option best:
[Audio-Technica Over-Ear](#)

Another good option for students just getting started with recording and production is a USB microphone. You can plug these microphones straight into your computer and you'll be ready to record (separate headphones required)!



[Audio-Technica ATR2100x](#)



[Apogee MiC](#)

For students who're interested in a more professional level recording set up, a USB audio interface and higher quality stand alone microphone is the route to take (including your favorite pair of headphones). Here are two options we like!



[Focusrite Scarlett 2i2](#)



[Apogee One](#)

If you opt for a USB audio interface and higher quality stand alone microphone, here are some microphone suggestions. NOTE: If you play guitar, bass or have an electric keyboard purchasing an extra microphone isn't totally necessary. Almost all USB audio interfaces have 1/4 inch inputs that you can plug your guitar or bass directly into. Many keyboard models have USB outputs that allow you to plug straight into your computer. These microphones are recommended for horn players, vocalists and string players:



[Audio-Technica ATX1500](#) (\$60, recommended for vocals and horns)



[Shure SM58](#) (\$100, recommended for horns, vocals and piano)



[Shure SM57](#) (\$100, recommended for micing snare drums, toms, piano and guitar/ bass amplifiers)



[Audio-Technica](#) (\$300, recommended for vocals and horns)

Here's some extra gear you'll need if you choose to go with a more professional set-up.



[Microphone Boom Stand](#)



[Microphone XLR Cable](#)

If you're a pianist, it's totally fine to use your acoustic piano at home for SJW Jazz Camp Online. A USB keyboard might be a fun tool to have though! These keyboards allow you to plug straight into your computer and play instantly. Not required, but this option might be easier and cheaper for pianists instead of investing in a microphone / interface to use on your acoustic piano.



[USB 49-key Keyboard](#) (\$100)

Suggested Practice Tools for the Developing Musician

by Steven Lugerner, Camp and Faculty Director

Subscription to a music streaming service

The #1 way to get better at playing/performing music (regardless of genre), is to **listen** to as much music as you possibly can. Do you know the phrase “you are what you eat?” Well, the same applies for musicians. If you don’t actively listen to the genre of music you’re trying to master, you won’t even come close to sounding like the real thing. This might be obvious, but I can’t tell you how many times students tell me they “listen to jazz,” only to discover that they listen to jazz maybe 10% of the time. If you’re serious about mastering your musicianship within any genre of music, you need to be listening to that genre at least 50% (ideally 85%) of the time.



There are a lot of options for music streaming out there, with the most popular ones being Spotify and Apple Music. A student can type in the title of a song they’re learning and find hundreds of recorded versions of that song. It’s an **incredible** resource, and basically **required** for any serious musician.

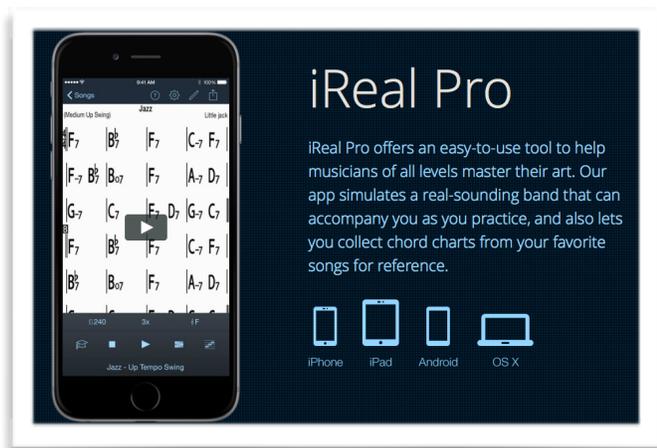


Bluetooth speaker or Computer speakers

Music was not meant to be digested through iPhone speakers or small computer speakers. Every student should invest in some type of speaker system so that they can listen to music at an appropriate volume and practice with accompaniment that is loud enough for them to play their instrument. Bluetooth speakers are growing in popularity, but don’t buy cheap ones, as they don’t get very loud. Brands such as **Bose** make superior quality bluetooth speakers. A much cheaper option would be to purchase some computer speakers - but if you go this route, be sure to purchase a set of speakers with a subwoofer. A proper bluetooth speaker is required for some of the music apps recommended below. Google Home or Amazon Alexa aren’t technically true “bluetooth speakers.”

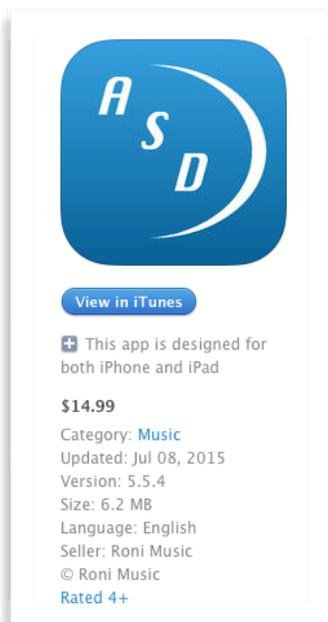


Handy Practice Applications



iRealPro

I use [iRealPro](#) in literally every private lesson I teach. The application is essentially a “Band-in-an-app,” so it’s an essential tool for any young musician who is trying to get better at improvisation. The app comes pre-loaded with great jazz chord progression exercises, but you can download a catalog of 1,300 jazz standards by utilizing the “forum” feature of the application. 1,300 tunes to practice in your pocket!



Amazing SlowDowner

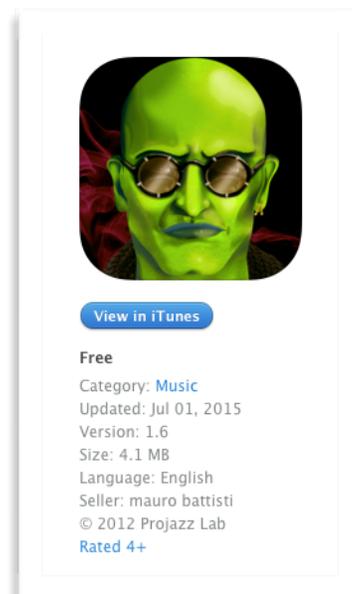
This application is **AMAZING** for any musician who is transcribing solos, chords or melodies from recordings. Transcribing is an essential skill to develop as a musician, and this application helps the process by slowing down recordings so that you can hear everything that’s going on. This application connects to Spotify seamlessly, so it’s a particularly useful and easy tool to use. **HIGHLY recommended** for all students studying jazz.

Drum Genius

This application is like a metronome, but SO MUCH better. Drum Genius provides drum loops that students can practice to. It’s perfect for practicing difficult passages that need to be performed for an upcoming concert, and it’s perfect for practicing improvisation as well.

What’s best about this application is that the drum loops are taken from real recordings, so

you’re actually playing with real drummers who are truly playing in the style of music you’re trying to master. This application is free and comes with 3 drum loops to start. For \$3-5, you can purchase additional drum loops. This application is **HIGHLY recommended!**





[View in iTunes](#)

+ This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

\$3.99

Category: [Music](#)

Updated: Oct 29, 2012

Version: 2.1.3

Size: 11.4 MB

Languages: English, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Swedish

Seller: Bitcount Ltd.

© 2008 Bitcount Ltd.

[Rated 4+](#)

Cleartune

This application turns the microphone on your smartphone into a chromatic tuner, a tool that is **useful** for virtually any musician.

Tempo

Tempo is an application that turns your device into a metronome. A metronome keeps a beat for musicians practicing difficult passages at fast/slow tempos. A metronome app is also an **essential** tool for any serious musician.



[View in iTunes](#)

+ This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

\$2.99

Category: [Music](#)

Updated: Apr 23, 2015

Version: 3.7.1

Size: 13.2 MB

Languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Traditional Chinese

Seller: Frozen Ape Pte. Ltd.

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[Rated 4+](#)