
MICHAEL J. CONKLIN

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Letters, Fine Arts, and Media Studies – Jazz History Concentration

Drew University, Madison, New Jersey
Dissertation: *Hear Me Talkin' to Ya: Jazz as Social Commentary in Harlem of the 1920s*

Master of Arts in Jazz History and Research

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey
Thesis: *The Poet and the Priest: An Analytical Examination of the Divergent Piano Styles of Bill Evans and Thelonious Monk*

Bachelor of Arts in Music

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey
Senior Thesis: *Dichterliebe: Robert Schumann and the Song Cycle*

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, New Jersey
Program Convener/Studio and Lab Specialist

1999 – Present

- Developed the A.A.S. Music Technology degree program, its curriculum, procurement of technology, and staffing. This program doubled the enrollment for the Department of Music.
 - Courses included four-semester sequence of Avid's Pro Tools, MakeMusic's Finale, PreSonus's Notion, and composing music for media.
- Interviewed, recommended hiring, and mentored adjunct faculty within the A.A.S. Music Technology program.
- Acquired federal (Perkins) funding for the A.A.S. Music Technology degree program.
- Established articulation agreements with four-year partnering institutions.
- Conduct different learning activities including demonstrations and workshops, and lecture in music history, music theory, music performance, and music technology.
- Authored, proofread, and edited print and online learning materials for sundry music courses.

- Implement programs to help foster relationships with students, faculty, and administration.
- Serve as department ambassador at college open houses and education fairs.
- Play a vital role in recruiting new students.
- Provide critical feedback on students' performance to foster learning.
- Responsible for recruiting and supervising students in the federal work-study programs.
- Provide academic advising and career guidance to students.
- Work closely with college-wide departments such as Academic Advising, Student and Career Services, Records and Registration, and Admissions.
- Authored the 5-year Music Department plan for nearly two decades.
- Maintained Department Master Schedule.
- Contribute to curriculum development and design, strategic planning, assessment, academic catalog preparation, course scheduling, and staffing.
- Participated in educational partnership and interdisciplinary learning for collaboration and development of courses such as Music Business.
- Developed three online courses: The History of Jazz, Music Appreciation, and Music Fundamentals to enhance educational accessibility.
- Served on college restructuring committee and contributed to the organizational development of the Humanities Institute.
- Converted traditional classes to online models to maintain effective learning environments following campus closure due to COVID-19 pandemic. These include all music technology courses, music history and theory, and performance classes.

Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, New Jersey
Adjunct Instructor of Music

1999 – Present

Teaches Music Technology, History of Jazz, Music Appreciation, American Popular Music, Music Theory by creating engaging and inspiring lectures and activities. Supports students in deepening their understanding and appreciation of diverse musical styles and music production.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities, Trenton, New Jersey
Public Scholar

2015 – Present

Speaks at a variety of events for nonprofit and for-profit organizations providing opportunities for attendees to learn more about history, value, culture, and beliefs through the humanities. Presents informative and engaging presentations on jazz history such as, “What is Jazz and Why Does it Matter?”

**The College of New Jersey, Ewing Township, New Jersey
Adjunct Instructor of Music & African American Studies**

2004 – Present

Develops lessons and materials and teaches Exploring Concert Music, Jazz History, and Studies in Black Music courses. Serves as subject matter expert for jazz history and related topics.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & AWARDS

- **Recipient of the 2019 Morroe Berger-Benny Carter-Ed Berger Jazz Research Award, The Institute of Jazz Studies, Rutgers University**
- **Recipient of The William Randolph Hearst Scholarship, Drew University, 2014 – 2018**
- **Alpha Sigma Lambda, Member, Rutgers University**
- **American Historical Association, Member**
- **American Musicological Society, Member**
- **International Society for Jazz Research, Member**
- **Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association, Member**
- **Society for American Music, Member**
- **International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Member**