



## MUSI 181 - Jazz Ensemble Course Outline

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 08/11/2013

### SECTION A

Unique ID Number CCC000286213

Discipline(s) Music

Division Arts and Humanities

Subject Area Music

Subject Code MUSI

Course Number 181

Course Title Jazz Ensemble

TOP Code/SAM Code 1004.00 - Music, General / D - Possible  
Occupational

Rationale for adding this course to the  
curriculum Course Update

Units 1

Cross List N/A

Typical Course Weeks

Total Instructional Hours

#### Contact Hours

Lecture 0.00

Lab 54.00

Activity 0.00

Work Experience 0.00

Outside of Class Hours 0.00

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Total Contact Hours 54

Total Student Hours 54

Open Entry/Open Exit No

Maximum Enrollment 20

Grading Option Letter Grade or P/NP

Distance Education Mode of Instruction

### SECTION B

## General Education Information:

### SECTION C

#### Course Description

**Repeatability** May be repeated 3 times

**Catalog Description** This course is focused on the study, rehearsal, and public performance of the jazz ensemble repertoire, with an emphasis on the development of skills needed to perform within a jazz ensemble. Different repertoire will be studied each semester. Choice of ensemble is based on each student's identified major instrument. Assessment of proficiency on traditional jazz instrument: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, guitar, drums is required. The course is repeatable for credit.

#### Schedule Description

### SECTION D

#### Condition on Enrollment

1a. **Prerequisite(s):** *None*

1b. **Corequisite(s):** *None*

1c. **Recommended:** *None*

#### 1d. Limitation on Enrollment

- By Audition
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### SECTION E

#### Course Outline Information

##### 1. Student Learning Outcomes:

- A. The student will perform with accuracy of pitch and rhythm, exhibiting appropriate style and expression, blending and balancing your part with the whole jazz ensemble.
- B. Evaluate and critique student jazz ensemble performance and receive personal performance criticism from others.

##### 2. Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Play in time with section and ensemble as directed by the conductor.
- B. Play the correct pitches as indicated with accurate intonation.
- C. Play with the articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and expression as directed.
- D. Play appropriate to the traditional jazz styles of performance, period and composition.
- E. Perform improvised solos as applicable to the jazz chart.
- F. Demonstrate appropriate blend and balance within the section and jazz ensemble.
- G. Memorize performance repertoire as directed.
- H. Adhere to professional level jazz ensemble performance and rehearsal standards of conduct.
- I. Demonstrate increased skill in sight reading, analyzing, rehearsing and performing jazz repertoire.

J.

##### 3. Course Content

###### I. Musical skills

- A. Rhythm
  1. Correct reading of rhythm
  2. Playing together as a section/ensemble
  3. Follow the conductor as applicable
- B. Intonation

1. Correct reading and production of pitches
2. Tuning pitches and harmonies as a section/ensemble
- C. Articulation
  1. Correct readings of markings when applicable
  2. Following the conductor's gestures as applicable
  3. Agreement as a section/ensemble
- D. Individual and ensemble tone
  1. Blend as appropriate to section/ensemble
    - a. Correct tone
    - b. Correct volume
    - c. Correct timbre
  2. Balance as appropriate to section/ensemble
    - a. Correct tone
    - b. Correct volume
    - c. Correct timbre
- E. Sight reading
  1. Pitch notation
    - a. Intonation
    - b. Resonance
    - c. Vibrato
  2. Rhythmic notation
    - a. Syncopation
    - b. Straight rhythm
- D. Improvisation
  1. Modal scales
  2. Ornaments (licks)

## II. Instrument technical skills

- A. Fingering
- B. Tuning
- C. Alternate techniques
  1. Exploring individual differences
  2. Embouchure
  3. Fingerings
- D. Vocal addition, when appropriate

## III. Performance skill

- A. Musical style
  1. Historical period performance practices
  2. Improvised solos
  3. Memorization of performance repertoire as applicable
- B. Compositional (individual composer) style, e.g.
  1. Coltrane
  2. Holliday
- C. Jazz stylistic performance
  1. Band Jazz
  2. Jazz Combo
- D. Standards of conduct
  1. Attire
  2. Rehearsal/performance professional etiquette
    - a. Attendance/participation

- b. Attitude
- c. Deportment
- 3. Demonstrate musical preparedness in rehearsal/performance

#### IV. Repertoire

- A. Jazz Charts
- B. Arrangements of standard ballads
- C. Original jazz arrangements/compositions

#### 4. Methods of Instruction:

**Critique:** Individual and group

**Lab:** Rehearsal: individual, sectional, full group

**Observation and Demonstration:** CD and instructor demonstration

**5. Methods of Evaluation:** Describe the general types of evaluations for this course and provide at least two, specific examples.

#### Typical classroom assessment techniques

Class Work -- Repertoire rehearsal/improvisation when appropriate

Lab Activities -- Rehearsal: Individual, Sectional, Ensemble

Class Performance -- Repertoire, Improvisation

Final Public Performance -- Evaluated public performance in Main theater (PAC)

Letter Grade or P/NP

**6. Assignments:** State the general types of assignments for this course under the following categories and provide at least two specific examples for each section.

##### A. Reading Assignments

1. Read through your part of an assigned chart. Locate difficult passages in terms of tuning with the rest of the ensemble.

2. Read chapter 3 on "Scales and Modes" in the book Jazzology: The Encyclopedia of Jazz Theory for All Musicians.

##### B. Writing Assignments

1. Perform your part from the assigned charts with accurate tuning, rhythmically matching, blending and balancing, articulating the phrasing with your section and the whole ensemble.

2. Create improvisational licks for the tune by Hoagy Carmichael, "Skylark."

##### C. Other Assignments

Student may be required to write an evaluation of an orchestral, wind ensemble or jazz concert performance.

#### 7. Required Materials

##### A. EXAMPLES of typical college-level textbooks (for degree-applicable courses) or other print materials.

Book #1:

Author: Variety of Composers

Title: The Real Book, Volume IV

Publisher: Hal Leonard Corp

Date of Publication: 2010

Edition:

Book #2:

Author: Larry Neeck

Title: 5.4 on the Richter Scale

Publisher: C.L. Barnhouse

Date of Publication: 2007

Edition:

Book #3:

Author: Robert Rawlins, Nor Eddine Bahha

Title: Jazzology: The Encyclopedia of Jazz Theory for all Musicians

Publisher: Hal Leonard

Date of Publication: 2005

Edition:

**B. Other required materials/supplies.**

- Music for each concert program selected by the instructor.
- Performance attire as appropriate for jazz ensemble and selected by the instructor.