

The History of Jazz- MUS 140 009 Fall 2008

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Office Hours: TBA

Class Time and Place : 11am T/TH Recital Hall

Text: Megill and Demory - *Introduction to Jazz History*: (6th ed., Prentice Hall, 2004).

Class Goals: The goal of this class is to help you appreciate music by studying the Jazz phenomenon from its earliest roots to the present. This goal will be achieved through listening to historic Jazz compositions and the study of various Jazz artists from the last 100 years.

Class Attendance: I expect you to be present, and on time at all class meetings. You are responsible for all notes, power point presentations, recordings, films/videos presented in class. Due the size of this class, no talking, sleeping, eating, reading newspapers, text messaging or cell phone use during class will be tolerated. All of these activities disrupt the educational process. If these common courtesies are not observed, you will be invited to leave the class. **NO CELL PHONES OUT DURING CLASS!**

Grading:

Tests – (20% each) - 60%

Recital Attendance – (5% each) 25%

Final - 15%

Grading Scale:

90-100 =A

80-89 =B

70-79 =C

60-69 =D

00-59 =F

Tests : There will be three tests and the final, in this course. The tests may be multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank, short answer or essay. All tests will have a listening component because the goal in this class is to listen to music actively and intelligently. All Test are on WebCT.

Recital Attendance : You are required to attend at least five concerts. I require you to go to two "Classical" recitals, one "rock" concert and two Jazz concerts. The classical and jazz concerts are given by SFA's department of music. You will need to type a page review on all of the concerts you attend. The review should contain your thoughts on the concert. Jazz music has its roots from "Classical Music", by attending "classical concerts" you will appreciate Jazz music even more. You can go to any Jazz concert that you want to attend. These concerts can range from going to a club and listening to a cover band to going to see your favorite Jazz star in the big city. Please turn in all of your recital reviews by the final on WebCT. If you can not go to any jazz or rock concerts, you may go to 5 classical recitals instead. (You can not only go to Jazz concerts and receive full recital credit.)

Extra credit : I will only take extra credit if you have turn in all of your work. i.e. no missed tested and all of your recitals turned in. I will give extra credit for a final Project. The final project can be over any rock history topic. It can be a paper, a power point presentation, etc. I will give you a handout on the final project if you wish to do this project. You can receive up to 5% of your final grade on this final project. If you go to 5 extra recitals, I will give you 1% extra credit of your final grade, you have to write a report on each of these concerts.

I will give bonus quizzes that will count as extra credit in class. You can not make up a quiz for any reason. It pays to come to class. I may have one quiz every week.

I will cover new material and or give a test during **dead week**.

Students with documented disabilities who need course adaptations or accommodations please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

If you are having problems, please do not hesitate to contact me. I teach because I love sharing my knowledge with students and will try my best to help you.

Make-Up Test Policy:

Make-up tests will only be given for excused reasons and at my convenience. If you are willing to work with me, I will work with you. Bring in a note to prove your excused absence. **You can not make-up a test for an Unexcused Absence or the day before spring break. All make-up tests are essay.**

The syllabus may be amended at anytime due to the overall performance of the class.

All Test are on WebCT, there are listening questions on each test, so you will need speakers or headphones. You can take the test in one of the computer labs on campus or use your own. You will need to have QuickTime installed on your computer. Call 468-1212 or 468-1919 for tech help.

Test Dates (This are subject to change if we are moving at a different rate than I have planned)

Test One- September 25-Elements of music, Roots of Jazz, Country and City Blues, Ragtime, Stride Boogie Woogie

Test Two- October 16-New Orleans Dixieland, Chicago Dixieland, Jelly Roll Morton, Dixieland Soloists

Test Three- November 6-Swing, Duke Ellington, Basie, Holiday, Young, Swing Transition

Final- Finals week December 9 – Bebop Revolution, Bebop Piano, Hard Bop, Mainstream, 3rd Stream, Big Bands

Student/Learning Outcomes: What students should know or be able to do as a result of this course:

I became aware of the scope and variety of works in music history.

I learned to understand musical works as human expressions with a social context.

I was given the opportunity to respond critically to musical works.

I was given the opportunity to respond orally and in writing to various music works.

I developed an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide music; e.g. form, tonality, texture, timbre, etc.

I became aware of the multicultural nature of music.

I learned to aurally distinguish between different musical styles and periods.

I can recognize the characteristics of various musical periods and understand how they change over time.

I became aware of the social and political events that evolved during the Jazz era.

I was given the opportunity to listen to live music through attending recitals and concerts.