New Course Request

Visual and Performing Arts

E458 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)

Pedagogy of Jazz

Jazz Ped

Spring 2010

No

Techniques and methods of teaching jazz studies including training of jazz bands.

2

Variable from to

2

Variable from to

5

0

Yes

More comprehensive preparation for music education majors.

Yes

Approved by:

Date

Dean of Graduate School (when required)

Date

Chancellor/Vice-President

Date

University Enrollment Services

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724
Jazz Pedagogy
MUS-E458

Meeting: Wednesday & Friday – 10:00 to 10:50
Location: Rhinehart Music Center, room 120
Director: Farrell Vernon, Professor of Jazz Studies
Studio: Rhinehart Music Center, room 210
Office Hours: By appointment only
Email: vernonj@ipfw.edu
Phone: (260) 481-6720

Course Objectives

- To develop competence in rehearsal techniques of large and small jazz ensembles and vocal jazz.
- To become conversant with current jazz pedagogy methodologies and supplemental resources.
- To learn suitable jazz combo, jazz ensemble and vocal jazz literature.
- To develop listening appreciation skills relevant to jazz performance.
- To justify the inclusion of the teaching of jazz in various learning environments (elementary, middle/high schools and colleges).
- To gain rudimentary skills in teaching jazz improvisation.
- To develop a personal understanding of the process of performing jazz in relationship to their major instrument and the rhythm section.

Required Materials

Aebersold, Combo Rehearsal Guidelines (www.jazzbooks.com)
Dunscomb & Hill, Jazz Pedagogy: The Jazz Educator’s Handbook and Resource Guide
Coker, The Teaching of Jazz

Required Reading Materials
(Portions of the texts below will be required reading)

Baker, David: Jazz Pedagogy
Berry: The Jazz Ensemble Director’s Guidebook
Ferguson/Feldstein: The Jazz/Rock Ensemble
Fleming, Lissa A.: Getting Started with Jazz Band
Henry: The Jazz Ensemble
Houghton, Steve: A Guide for the Modern Rhythm Section
Kuzmich/Bash: Instrumental Jazz Instruction
Lawn: The Jazz Ensemble Director’s Manual
Schuller: So You Want To Lead A Jazz Band?
Sherman: Techniques & Materials for the Stage Band
Sherman: The Rhythm Section
Supplemental Materials

- 3-ring 4” notebook and plastic sheet protectors for all handouts.
- Notebook dividers for organization.
- Weekly Listening log to be housed in the notebook.
- Personal instrument daily.
- Access to Band-In-A-Box for basic skills in improvisation.
- Access to Smart-Music for basic improvisational skills.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is MANDATORY in order to have a cohesive concept and presentation. Two unexcused absences will result in the loss of (1) letter grade per infraction. The student will be removed from the ensemble if there is a (3rd).

Grading Scale

Absences: 0 - 1 = A, 2 = B, 3 = F and Dismissal

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\begin{align*}
A &= 93 - 100 \\
A- &= 90-92 \\
B+ &= 87-89 \\
B &= 83-86 \\
B- &= 80-82 \\
C+ &= 77-79 \\
C &= 73-76 \\
C- &= 70-72 \\
D+ &= 67-69 \\
D &= 63-66 \\
D- &= 60-62 \\
F &= 59 and below
\end{align*}
\]

Grading is based upon:
1. Individual assignments will be averaged for a total of = 500 points
2. Notebook of all materials compiled, organized properly = 100 points
3. Rehearsals of Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo = 100 points
4. Midterm = 150 points
5. Final = 150 points

**All five grading areas MUST BE COMPLETED, or the student receives and ‘F’ for the course.

Classroom/Rehearsal Decorum

Rehearsal behavior that interferes with either 1) the conductor’s ability to conduct rehearsal or, 2) the ability of the students to benefit from the instruction is not acceptable. Late arrivals, early departures, cell phones, beepers, talking and/or playing while others are speaking etc...will not be tolerated, resulting in dismissal.
Schedule

Assignments and Listening Log

Week 2: Big Band Setups, Block, Box and variations.
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 3: The Chart: Range, Rhythm, Style and Articulation points.
Assignment and Listening Log

Week 4: Rhythm Section: Setup, Equipment, Basic Styles and Comping.
Drums = demo and Percussion = demo
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 5: Rhythm Section (cont.)
Bass, writing bass lines, various styles
Piano, voicings, pedal, comping role
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 6: Brass Section
Setup, mutes, equipment and non-idiomatic concerns
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 7: Saxophone Section
Setup, equipment, doubles and non-idiomatic concerns
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 8: Midterm Review and Midterm

Week 9: Improvisation: Rhythm as the foundation, Basic scales and chords, Blues, Modal, and Rhythm Changes forms.
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 10: Improvisation (cont.)
Voice-leading, Guide tones, Tension and release concepts, Advanced chords and scales, and transcription.
Materials overview.
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 11: Jazz Combos: Various setups, repertoire
Rhythm section differences.
Assignments and Listening Log
Schedule (cont.)

Week 12: Presenting a Concert: Program points
PA considerations, Recording, Setup
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 13: Jazz Festivals, competitions and masterclasses
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 14: Playing/Directing Projects (rehearsal)
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 15: Playing/Directing Projects (rehearsal)
Assignments and Listening Log

Week 16: Final Exam