

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

MSC133

JAZZ APPRECIATION

3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
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Revised Date: March 2010
by
Brad Madson

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Dr. Mindy Selsor, Dean, Arts and Science Education

MSC133 Jazz Appreciation

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

- A. Prerequisite: None
- B. 3 semester hours credit
- C. Jazz Appreciation is a survey of the stylistic and historical elements of jazz. It is also the aural analysis of significant musical qualities and influential musicians of the different periods of jazz. Hours may be credited toward Humanities general education elective requirement. It is designed for non-music majors. (F,S,Su)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES / ASSESSMENT MEASURES

Students will understand what happens during a jazz performance.	A written 250 page word paper describing a professional jazz performance.
The student will understand the basics of jazz improvisation and how it functions in the context of performance.	Class discussion/demonstration. Quizzes/Exams
Students will comprehend an historical understanding of jazz and related styles.	Listening and objective quizzes. Midterm and final exams.
Student will conceptualize an understanding of small group, vocal, and big band jazz.	Listening and objective quizzes. Midterm and final exams. A written 250 word paper describing a professional jazz performance.

III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- A. Definition of jazz, improvisation, swing feeling, and an over-view of jazz styles.
- B. Listening techniques, instrumental and vocal roles, and basic song construction as used in jazz.
- C. Improviser skills: requirements, training, and historical background.
- D. Historical development of jazz: from early slavery in the US, brass bands and the Civil War, New Orleans and Early Jazz styles prior to 1930.
- E. Swing styles of 1930s through 1940s with emphasis on small groups, big bands, vocalists, and major stylists.

- F. Inception of Bop style in 1940s as reaction to 1930s Swing style.
- G. Late 1940s and resulting Hard-Bop, Funk, and Cool styles.
- H. The proliferation of other styles in the 1950s: West Coast cool and major artists of the decade.
- I. Modern jazz from the early 1960s: a synthesis of styles, influence of rock styles, and the development of avant-garde and Free jazz.
- J. Fusion of the 1970s and rebirth and resurgence of all heretofore styles.
- K. The technological and electronic developments in music and jazz as relative to the Fusion style of the 1970s.
- L. Proliferation of styles from the 1970s to present with emphasis on present day innovators, trends, and representatives ensembles.
- M. Jazz since the 1980s: classicism and the jazz repertory movement. Crossover, world music and post modernism.

IV. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lectures and aural demonstrations
- B. Live in-class performances
- C. Video cassettes and recordings of performances
- D. An occasional speaker with extensive jazz background
- E. A 250 word paper describing a professional jazz performance

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Gridley, Mark, *Concise Guide to Jazz*, 6th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ, 2010.
(must include 2 listening CDs)

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS (Student)

- A. Textbook
- B. Writing paper and pens or pencils

C. Access to a computer

D. CD player

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

Library Reserve: *Grove's Dictionary of Jazz and Musicians*

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION (STUDENT)

A. Individual tests and quizzes: written and aural

B. Classroom attendance

C. Concert attendance of one professional jazz performance

D. One page typewritten paper describing attended performance

E. Written and listening final

F. Grading scale is as follows:

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

50-59 F

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any statement requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-797-3000, ext. 169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with college policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website www.jeffco.edu/jeffco under Publications).