Syllabus MUP 3139 017  
Jazz Combo  
FALL 2020

Instructors:
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COVID-19 GUIDELINES FALL 2020
The SFA Swingin' Axes and Aces and/or Jazz Combos intend to meet “in person” for the fall 2020 semester. Participation will not require an audition. As part of our response to the challenges posed by the pandemic, anyone who would like to be a part of jazz and is proficient on any instrument may simply sign up; even those "new" to jazz are invited to join. Students will be organized into smaller collaborative combo groups. Face to face rehearsals of each group will be rotated. Individual practice and outside sectionals will be required. Students may participate in a variety of ways including rehearsals, virtual coaching sessions, practice sessions, recordings, and listening assignments. For non-traditional jazz students, the instructors and individual students will collaborate on a plan of study. As long as the university and/or School of Music remains open, safety precautions taken for jazz rehearsals will include the following: (These precautions are subject to change as new research is reported.)

• The securing of two large indoor rehearsal spaces as well as outdoor tents, ensure that there is adequate space for proper distancing measures.
• All ensembles and sectionals that include aerosol-producing instruments will meet for a maximum of thirty minutes as a group. Groups may rotate among available rehearsal spaces, but indoor spaces will need a vacancy period of thirty minutes before being used again. Outdoor spaces will need a vacancy period of five minutes.
• Players should be spaced at least 12 feet apart.
• Approved performances outdoors are still a possibility, but this is subject to change.
• Players of instruments that create aerosols are required to use a bell mask.
• Face masks must be used at all times unless a player is playing. At that point, the player may move the face mask to the chin, taking care to not touch the face.

Course Description:  Lab Band-One semester hour credit, three hours of rehearsal per week. Analysis and performance of jazz and jazz-related literature. Open to the general student by audition. May be repeated for credit. Fall, Spring.

Purpose: The purpose of MUP 3139 (Jazz Combo) is to provide the opportunity for the music major or non-music major to practice and perform in a variety of traditional and contemporary jazz styles including swing, Latin, rock, and funk, and also give the student a basic understanding of jazz improvisation.

Time Requirement: Typically, this 1-hour course requires two 75-minute meetings per week for 15 weeks, and also includes two two-hour evening rehearsals and two two-hour concerts. The student should expect other possible scheduled or impromptu sectionals, performances, and/or tours. The final exam time will involve organizing and passing in music. In addition to the weekly meetings, students should plan to spend a minimum of 2 hours of outside-of-class practice per week.

Program Learning Outcomes (Student Learning Outcomes):
Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:
• Demonstrate comprehensive capabilities in rehearsing and preparing a high-level performance in ensembles. (To successfully complete the course, the student will perform a concert at a much higher level than the first rehearsal.)
• Develop knowledge of jazz styles. (To successfully complete the course, the student will perform pieces in different styles including swing, Latin, ballads, rock, and others.)
• Develop knowledge of jazz articulations. (To successfully complete the course, the student will play written articulations in an appropriate jazz style.)
• Show an understanding of blend, balance, and tone quality. (To successfully complete the course, the student will perform within the ensemble while blending and playing in tune.)
• Develop at least minimal knowledge of jazz improvisation. (To successfully complete the course, the student will have the opportunity to practice jazz improvisation.)

Course Requirements and Calendar:
• Regular class meetings will be Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-1:45.

Attendance:
It is expected that students attend class in the format presented. However, if a student shows any symptoms of Covid, the student SHOULD NOT COME TO FACE TO FACE CLASS OR SECTIONALS. The student should notify the professor of the situation immediately to receive an excused absence.
• Attendance of all rehearsals and performances is required. Unexcused absences will cause the student’s grade to be lowered by one letter for each rehearsal missed.
• Rehearsals may be excused in extenuating circumstances. However, the instructor must be notified in advance, and the student is responsible for securing a dependable “sub.”
• Tardies to rehearsals, dress rehearsals and/or performances are unacceptable and will cause the student’s grade to be lowered.
• If a student does not come to a performance, that student is subject to a grade of an automatic “F.”
• Friday, November 13, is a possible outdoor performance date. Please keep this date clear.

Grading Policy:
The final semester grade will be based on the following criteria:
• Attendance of rehearsals and performances
• Preparation and progress
• Attitude
• Part of students’ responsibilities will be moving, setting up, and tearing down the jazz band set-up as needed. Students will be required to sign up for a “work slot” if presented to them, or just generally help as requested by the student assistant or director. Failure to show up for or reasonably comply will result in the final grade being dropped by one letter for each instance.

Hours Over Your Degree Plan
Providing that you pass your classes the first time and don’t drop them, you should not have trouble with reaching the out-of-state tuition and you should still be able to participate and enroll in minor ensembles with no problem. Music electives are required; these
can be fulfilled with small ensembles. You are allowed thirty hours over your degree plan, however you just need to have one in-state hour left over to get in-state tuition in your last semester. See the instructor if you believe that you are in danger of hitting the limit.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.I)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Please copy and paste the following information regarding Withheld Grades into your syllabus. Add additional information as needed to meet your departmental or course needs.

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

*Please copy and paste the following statement and place in your course syllabus.*

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)