

MUS 347: JAZZ IN AMERICA Syllabus – FALL 2009 (SLN# 70964)

Staff:

Dr. Richard Mook
April Cound (TA)

Contact Information:

Class E-mail: MUS347@gmail.com

Students are encouraged to contact the course email address with any questions or concerns. Office visits or telephone conferences may sometimes be necessary, and can be arranged via email.

Course URL: <http://herbergeronline.asu.edu/jazzinamerica/>

Required Text:

Martin, Henry and Keith Waters. *Essential Jazz: The First 100 Years* Second Edition. Belmont, CA: Thompson Schirmer, 2009.

NOTE: This is the *Essentials* version of the text, not the original *Jazz*.

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the history of jazz, from its origins in 19th-century genres to the present day. We will explore the basic styles of jazz and some of the major artists and other figures that affected their development. Care will be taken to account for how jazz has functioned in specific social, political, and economic circumstances, including New Orleans at the turn of the 20th century, the Harlem renaissance, Manhattan during World War II, Paris in the 1920s, etc. Throughout the semester, we will consider how jazz draws on a legacy of African-American and Afro-Caribbean musical styles. We will also reflect on how it has been portrayed at different times as “black music,” “popular music,” and “America’s classical music.” In addition, students will learn to hear and discuss key aspects of jazz, using terms familiar to jazz musicians, through listening assignments. A detailed introduction to musical terms and concepts will be provided; no prior musical background is required for this course.

Grading:

All exams and quizzes will be taken online through the course website. Do not use a wireless internet connection when taking exams or quizzes. Use the “practice test” before each exam and quiz to verify that your computer is properly configured. The final grade will be based on an accumulated score of 1000 points. Points can be earned as follows:

Vocabulary Quiz

There will be one vocabulary quiz worth 100 points that will be open for 1 full week right before the start of exam 1. The quiz will test you on terms covered in segment A (“Course Introduction, Fundamentals”) of the course. The quiz will have 10 questions, worth 10 points each. You may log onto the quiz and view the questions as many times as needed during the 1 week open window, however the system will only allow you to submit once. No resets will be granted for this quiz, and there will be no makeup assignments or quizzes offered or allowed to cover the points should you fail to submit the quiz.

QUIZ WINDOW
Opens 08/27/09 at 8 AM and closes 09/13/09 at 11:30 PM

Exams

There will be four (4) exams worth 200 points each during the semester. These exams are non-cumulative. See calendar for dates. There will be 40 questions on each exam, worth 5 points each. You have 40 minutes to complete each exam. Exceeding this time will result in the loss of 2 points for each additional minute used.

Each exam will include questions about readings, recorded lectures, and listening examples.

Analytic Listening Exams

There will be four (4) analytic listening exams during the semester, three non-cumulative and one cumulative. See the calendar for dates. Each analytic listening exam will ask you to apply listening skills learned in this course to four audio examples that are not listed on our syllabus. There will be 12 questions on each of these exams (3 for each audio example),

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and you will have 30 minutes to complete the exam. Exceeding this time limit will result in the loss of 2 points for each additional minute used. The analytic listening exams are worth points as follows:

- Analytic Listening Exam 1 (non-cumulative): 24 points (2 points for each question)
- Analytic Listening Exam 2 (non-cumulative): 24 points (2 points for each question)
- Analytic Listening Exam 3 (non-cumulative): 24 points (2 points for each question)
- Analytic Listening Exam 4 (non-cumulative): 30 points (2.5 points per question)

Exam Reviews

You may access the questions that you missed on your exam via the “Grades” link on our website beginning two days after the exam closes. If you are surprised or concerned about your exam grade, please contact the course email address. We are happy to consult with you about study and testing strategies in this course.

EXAM WINDOWS	
Exam 1:	Opens 09/14/09 at 10 AM and closes 09/15/09 at 2 PM
Analytic 1:	Opens 09/14/09 at 10 AM and closes 09/15/09 at 2 PM
Exam 2:	Opens 10/12/09 at 10 AM and closes 10/13/09 at 2 PM
Analytic 2:	Opens 10/12/09 at 10 AM and closes 10/13/09 at 2 PM
Exam 3:	Opens 11/12/09 at 10 AM and closes 11/13/09 at 2 PM
Analytic 3:	Opens 11/12/09 at 10 AM and closes 11/13/09 at 2 PM
Exam 4:	Opens 12/10/09 at 10 AM and closes 12/11/09 at 2 PM
Analytic 4:	Opens 12/10/09 at 10 AM and closes 12/11/09 at 2 PM

Final grades will be calculated by adding points earned on quizzes and exams.

Discussion Postings [Extra Credit]:

The student may also make five (5) substantive, original postings to the class discussion board during the semester. The discussion questions will be related to video presentations or assigned readings. A link to the discussion board can be found on your course web site. These postings will be viewed as class participation and are worth 10 points each for a maximum of 50 points. There will be more than 5 discussion topics to choose from. These points will be added to your final grade. For example, if your final test grades totaled 760 points, and you responded to 4 discussion board questions, your final grade would be 800. **Postings that are insubstantial or redundant will not be given credit.**

Grading Scale:

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

Grading: The final grade will be based on an accumulated score of 1000 points. Points can be earned as follows:	
	Vocabulary Quiz: 100 points
Unit 1	Midterm Examination 1: 200 points Analytic Listening Exam 1: 24 points
Unit 2	Midterm Examination 2: 200 points Analytic Listening Exam 2: 24 points
Unit 3	Midterm Examination 3: 200 points Analytic Listening Exam 3: 24 points
Unit 4	Final Examination: 200 points Final Analytic Listening Exam: 28 points
Grading Scale	895-1000 = A 795-894 = B 695-794 = C 595-694 = D Below 595 = E
There are no other grading curves, extra credit, or any additional points available for this course.	

Exam Resets:

If you experience computer or technical problems during an exam, DO NOT SUBMIT IT! Exams that have been submitted

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can NOT be reset, and those grades will stand as posted. Instead, exit the browser, and take appropriate steps to identify and solve the problem with your computer (by using the practice test, moving to a different computer, or contacting technical support). Once you have resolved the problem, then return to the exams page on your course web site to reset your exam. USE THE PRACTICE TEST AGAIN before taking the reset. The system will allow you to reset your own exam if you have not already submitted or reset that exam. NOTE: only one online reset per exam is allowed, so you must take all reasonable steps to resolve any technical difficulties before attempting the reset. Two total resets are allowed for the semester. No resets will be allowed outside of the exam period.

Make Up Exams:

Make up exams will only be allowed in **documented cases of bereavement or hospitalization**. If one of these unfortunate circumstances befalls you, please notify Prof. Mook within 1 week (7 days) of the exam and be prepared to present documentation of your reason for missing the exam. No make-up exams will be given to students who “miss” or “forget to take” an exam, encounter work or transportation conflicts, do not follow the technical support guidelines of this course listed in the syllabus and/or website, or do not notify Prof. Mook of an illness or bereavement within 1 week of the test.

Confirmation Numbers:

All submitted exams, quizzes, and Discussion Board Postings are given a confirmation number via a submission results page if the submission is successful. It is your responsibility to print or write out each confirmation number you receive for each exam or Discussion Post you submit. Inquires about missing grades sent to faculty, staff, or to the help page will be ignored if they do not have the confirmation number(s) for the exam/posts in question.

Technical Minimums:

Access to a high-speed Internet connection is required to take this course. Access to a non-wireless, high-speed Internet connection is required for exams in this course. There will be several video clips and a few video presentations lasting 30 to 40 minutes. The examinations will include audio and still images. Adequate bandwidth is essential.

Because this course is entirely delivered via the Internet, you are responsible for making sure that the computer you use to access all course materials meets or exceeds the specified computer minimum qualifications as listed on the course web site. Also, due to the high media content of this course, you will be required to set up and configure a media player that will consistently play the Mp3 files and the Mp4 digital clips delivered via the course web site.

If using a mouse with a “scroll wheel,” please use caution when taking exams. The exams have “pull down” menus, and using the scroll wheel can sometimes result in answers being changed accidentally.

Finally, please use headphones or stereo speakers when listening to musical examples. Built-in computer speakers offer poor sound quality, and may reduce scores on assignments.

PLEASE NOTE! You are highly encouraged not to enroll, or to drop immediately, if you do not have computer experience, if you are not willing or prepared to assume the added responsibility of a computer-based course, or if you plan to be away from a computer site for an extended period of time during the semester. Necessary required skills include downloading mp3 audio files as well as digital video clips, surfing the net, conferring via email, and other intermediate computer knowledge.

Student Conduct:

All students are expected to abide by the ASU code of student conduct, which is available at: <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/>, and the Student Academic Integrity Policy, which can be found at: www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm.

No collaboration or use of outside sources of any kind is allowed on any tests, assignments, etc. This includes viewing the course website while taking the exam, listening to audio excerpts on another student's exam, discussing the exam with another student before taking it, and other such behavior. The exams are not open-book or open-note. All words and ideas included in your work that are not your own must be cited.

Any violation of this policy will result in sanctions and may result in further disciplinary action. Sanctions may include failure of the course (E), failure by reason of academic dishonesty (XE), and others as outlined by the ASU

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policy. All violations of the Code detected during the term will be sanctioned, even if the assessment has already been graded and points assigned.

Do not share your course ID and password with anyone. Log out of the course website when you are finished with it. Do not allow another student to use the course website under your password, even if s/he is also in the course. Each student is fully responsible for all activity that takes place on the course website under his/her password.

Special Accommodations:

To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact the ASU Disability Resource Center (Phone: (480) 965-1234; TDD : (480) 965-9000). This is a very important step as accommodations cannot be made retroactively. If you have a letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present the letter to me no later than the end of the first week of the semester so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need in this class.

Religious Holidays:

A list of recognized religious holidays may be found at:

www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/interfaith/religious_holidays.htm

Students who will observe any of these holidays must notify Dr. Mook within the first 4 weeks of class to arrange for accommodation.

- **No exceptions will be made to any of the policies as outlined above, under any circumstances.**
- **Any changes made by the instructor or staff will be posted on the course homepage.**

Course Schedule

The following listening and reading assignments cover the material for which you are responsible. Under “Lectures” are listed the recorded lectures and video excerpts for each segment. The “Reading” assignments refer to chapters in *Essential Jazz*, while under the “Repertory” you will see listed the musical works on which the lectures and readings will be focused. Not all of the works listed below will be discussed in lecture, and not all of the pieces discussed in lecture are included in our repertory.

Unit I.

Segment A) Course Introduction, Fundamentals

Lectures: Unit Introduction
Rhythm
Pitch and Melody
Harmony
Expression
Form

Repertory: Audio Primer Disc 1, Tracks 1-49

Reading: Introduction

Segment B) African and American Origins

Lectures: African Retentions
Early African-American Genres
Minstrelsy
Band Music

Repertory: Kasuan Kura Disc 1, Track 50
Daniel Disc 1, Track 51

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<u>Repertory:</u>	Down South Camp Meeting	Disc 1, Track 64
	Mary's Idea	Disc 1, Track 65
	Shoe Shine Boy	Disc 1, Track 66
	Avalon	Disc 1, Track 67
	Sepia Panorama	Disc 1, Track 68
	Vi Vigor	Disc 1, Track 69
	Body and Soul (Hawkins)	Disc 1, Track 70
	Body and Soul (Holiday)	Disc 1, Track 71

Reading: Chapter 3
Online Reading: "Jazz and Gender During the War Years"

Unit III.

Segment A) Bebop – Evolution or Revolution?

Lectures: Bebop Social Context
Bebop Musical Features
Bebop Musicians
Charlie Parker Film

<u>Repertory:</u>	Salt Peanuts	Disc 2, Track 1
	Manteca	Disc 2, Track 2
	Four in One	Disc 2, Track 3

Reading: Chapter 4

Segment B) 1950s: Jazz Styles Multiply I

Lectures: Stylistic Fragmentation
Cool Jazz
Hard Bop
Modal Jazz

<u>Repertory:</u>	Jeru	Disc 2, Track 4
	Moanin'	Disc 2, Track 5
	Powell's Prances	Disc 2, Track 7
	So What	Disc 2, Track 8

Reading: Chapter 5
Online Reading: "America's Secret Sonic Weapon"
Online Reading: "Louis Armstrong on Music and Politics"

Unit IV.

Segment A) Avant-garde Jazz and Popular Styles

Lectures: Avante Garde and Free Jazz Concepts
Avante Garde Artists
John Coltrane
Miles Davis
Bill Evans
John Coltrane Film

<u>Repertory:</u>	Hora Decubitus	Disc 2, Track 6
	Ghosts: First Variation	Disc 2, Track 9
	Street Woman	Disc 2, Track 10

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Acknowledgement Disc 2, Track 11
Peri's Scope Disc 2, Track 12

Reading: Chapter 6

Segment B) Fusion

Lectures: Fusion Precedents
 Key Fusion Originators
 Later Fusion Styles

Repertory: Chamelion Disc 2, Track 13
 Birdland Disc 2, Track 14

Reading: Chapter 7

Segment C) Jazz Since 1980

Lectures: Classicism
 Crossover
 David Friesen demonstration and interview

Repertory: Express Crossing Disc 2, Track 15
 One Note Samba Disc 2, Track 16
 Salt Peanuts (Coleman) Disc 2, Track 17
 Far West Disc 2, Track 18

Reading: Chapter 8
 Online Reading: "The Neoclassical Agenda"