



SYLLABUS | JAZZ ORCHESTRA | MUN 4713

Number Credit Hours: 1

Instructor: Dr. Courtney Jones

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Term: Spring 2020

Class Meeting Days: Tues and Thursday

Class Meeting Hours: 1:30-3:20

Class Location: Rm 260

I. Welcome!

II. I am truly **EXCITED** to be working with and getting to know each and every one of you! As we converse musically throughout the 2018-2019 academic year, we will rehearse and perform a plethora of Jazz repertoire. These compositional gems will include, but not be limited to Traditional, Standard, and Contemporary styles. Furthermore, we will also focus on creating a sound that will define the **FAU Jazz Orchestra**. Again, I am really looking forward to working with you all!

III. Course Description

This ensemble performs music beyond the scope and difficulty of typical college-level jazz ensembles. The expectation for this ensemble is that every musician learns his or her part both flawlessly and musically. This will, in almost all circumstances, require a moderate amount of outside practice. In short, mistakes, especially in sight-reading, will always be made, however it will be expected that these mistakes will be corrected in time for the next rehearsal. This expectation applies both to written music and improvised solos. The ensemble relies upon its jazz soloists to elevate the music to a high artistic level. It is therefore expected that they learn their solos **INSIDE AND OUT**.

IV. Required Materials

Each student is responsible for individual practice and mastery of their assigned part. The level of individual preparedness in an ensemble is crucial to its quality of rehearsal and performance. It is expected that members will have their parts substantially learned and instruments obtained by the beginning of the second rehearsal of a concert sequence. Jazz Orchestra members are expected to conduct themselves in a professional, considerate and respectful manner at all times. Wearing hats, caps, and sunglasses in rehearsal is not allowed. Eating during rehearsal is not allowed. Cell phones and other wireless devices must be turned off before rehearsals begin; texting or any other use of cell phones/wireless devices is not allowed during rehearsal.

Unprofessional or disruptive behavior of any kind is not tolerated. If you must leave the rehearsal to use the restroom or for any other reason, please try not to disturb the rehearsal and wait for an appropriate time to return to your seat. Additionally, students are expected to bring a pencil to ALL rehearsals and must keep their music filed in numerical or alphabetical order.

Concert and Gig Attire:

Men: Black Suit, 1 Colored Dress Shirt, 1 White Dress Shirt, 1 Blk tie, Blk/Colored Socks, Blk Shoes

Women: Black Pant Suit **or** Black Dress pants, 1 Colored Dress Top, 1 White Dress Top, Black Shoes

V. Course Objective: Make beautiful music!

VI. Course Grading Scale

Your grade in this course is contingent upon 3 simple things...

- 1). Presence and Punctuality
- 2). Preparation and Return of Music (if not, your grade will be held and will ultimately be given an F as well as fined)
- 3). Performance

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	4.0SCALE
A	94 - 100	4.00
A-	90 - 93	3.67
B+	86 - 89	3.33
B	83 - 85	3.00
B-	80 - 82	2.67
C+	76 - 79	2.33
C	73 - 75	2.00
C-	70 - 72	1.67
D+	66 - 69	1.33
D	63 - 65	1.00
D-	60 - 62	0.67
F	0 - 59	0.00

Grading, again, is based on performance, attendance, and punctuality. Beginning in week 2, absences in which the musician fails to find a substitute will result in a lowering of one third of a grade. Punctuality, performance, the return of **ALL MUSIC** will be considered in whole at the end of the semester before issuing the final grade.

If you respect my time, I will respect yours!

VII. Classroom etiquette policy (if applicable)

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VIII. Concert Dates and Locations

Scheduled performances for the FAJO during the 2018-2019 academic year is as follows:
Mar. 26, 2020: "Jazz Concert" 7:00p-9:00p: University Theatre (Boca)

Should other performance opportunities arise, or additional rehearsals arise for the FAJO, pertinent information will be given at the appropriate time. In addition, I want you to know that my door is and will **ALWAYS** be open. Communication is a key factor in learning how to effectively perform well and sets a precedent of what to expect. New this semester, if you are early, you're on time. If you are on time, you are late. If you are late, you've missed the gig. I will treat each performance as a professional one. If you are **late** for a call time for any outside performance, your pay will be docked 25% and your late fee will be added back to the jazz fund.

IX. Attendance Policy

Attendance at all Jazz Orchestra events (rehearsals, sectionals, performances, etc.) is mandatory. Unanticipated circumstances inevitably arise throughout the year. If a musician is forced to miss a rehearsal last minute, he or she **MUST** find an approved substitute player(s) for the rehearsal and notify the bandleader ASAP. This obligation also includes delivering the parts to the substitute player or the bandleader beforehand. Unexcused absences are treated equally. Leaving early, or otherwise spending extended time out of class is counted as a tardy, which is equal to one-half an absence (without prior consultation with the Professor). You are allowed up to **2** free absences, after which your final grade will be reduced by 5 % per additional absence. After the **3rd** absence, you will be dropped from the course with a WF (failure to attend). If tardiness becomes noticeable, for every tardiness thereafter will result as an absence. Because this ensemble rehearses immediately following some ensembles, there may be an occasional delay in beginning rehearsal. Nonetheless, musicians are expected to be at rehearsal on time, warmed up, and ready for a downbeat at **1:35pm**.

Attendance Policy Statement: *Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed 3 without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.*

Disability Policy Statement: *In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.*

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center: *Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>*

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement: *Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001. If your college has particular policies relating to cheating and plagiarism, state so here or provide a link to the full policy—but be sure the college policy does not conflict with the University Regulation.*

Religious Accommodations: *Any student, upon notifying his or her instructor, will be excused from class or other scheduled academic or educational activity to observe a religious holy day of his or her personal faith. Such notification shall be made no later than the end of the second week of the applicable academic term. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic or educational activity because of religious observances, practices or beliefs. Students should review course requirements and meeting days and times to avoid foreseeable conflicts, as excessive absences in a given term may prevent a student from successfully completing the academic requirements of a course. Students who are excused from class or a specific work assignment or other academic or educational activity for the purpose of observing a religious holy day will be responsible for the material covered in their absence but shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up any missed work. Missed work shall be made up in accordance with a timetable set by the student's instructor or as prescribed by the instructor at the beginning of the academic term.*