

Course Name: MUH 3801 Jazz In American Society, 3 credits

Prerequisite Courses: Not applicable

Course Logistics: Semester, Year – Distance Learning

Instructor(s): Mr. David Rossow, Instructor of Music
drossow@fau.edu, (561) 297-1327, AL 229
Adam Berkowitz, graduate teaching assistant
aberkowi@fau.edu

Office Hours: Internet conferences via Blackboard Collaborate (Found under the “Tools” menu) are available by request. Office hours will also be via Blackboard Collaborate or in person (AL 229), TR from 10am-11am and Friday from 1pm-2pm. All communication should take place within the course communication tools except in an emergency. If your question(s) are not of a personal or confidential nature, please post your questions to the General Questions/Concerns discussion board within the course. Posts will be generally responded to within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays

Course Description: This online survey course brings into focus the roots and historical perspective of Jazz in American society. Musical and historical events and their effect on the development and evolution of jazz music from its inception through the present day are explored.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- Define basic musical terms as found in discussion, readings, and media excerpts.
- List, in chronological order, the prominent eras/styles of Jazz music.
- Define, by citing specific characteristics, the prominent eras of Jazz music.
- Name the most important artists from each of the prominent eras of Jazz music.
- Identify by listening the most important artists from each of the prominent eras of Jazz music.
- Explain the major relationships between Jazz music and the historical, social and economic factors of each era.
- Create an original Wiki for one major artist/group in Jazz to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of that artist's/group's contribution to both the musical genre and American society through their music.

Required Text: Larson, Thomas E., *The History and Tradition of Jazz*. 4th Ed., ISBN: 978-0-7575-7301-9

Required Materials:

- If you purchase the textbook new, then it will include a subscription to *Rhapsody*. A subscription to this service is REQUIRED and you will not be able to complete and/or pass this class without it! If you decide to purchase the textbook used, then you must, on your own, purchase a subscription to *Rhapsody* via the following website: www.rhapsody.com. There will be listening examples presented in each module and questions on each exam pertaining to what you have listened to.
- You must also purchase specific episodes of a DVD series entitled *Jazz* by Ken Burns (Details on which episodes to purchase can be found in each Unit). It is available for purchase on iTunes or you can purchase the entire set at www.amazon.com either new or used.

Course Requirements:

- You must have access to FAU's blackboard site in order to complete this course. In addition, research on specific topics will be required at the University library either in person or through web access.
- In order to be successful in this class, you must possess the following technological skills/materials:
 - Access to a reliable computer, including an audio card and speakers or headphones which will enable playback of the required listening examples presented during this course.
 - Access to a reliable internet connection.
 - Ability to navigate *Blackboard*.
 - Ability to play the required DVDs for this course.

Communication Policies:

- **TIME COMMITMENT:** Students often misjudge the amount of time necessary for successful completion of an online course. It is recommended that you commit at least five hours per week to this course: three hours of material that will be delivered and approximately two hours towards completing all course requirements. If you engage yourself in this subject it should be fun and rewarding. However, if you intend to put this class at the bottom of your priority list and not take it seriously, you will probably have trouble with it. I am a firm believer in self responsibility: you do not deserve a grade in this class, **you earn it**. Do not assume that just because this class can be fun and interesting means that it will be easy.
- **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** Deadlines for tests and other events are set within the course to which students must adhere. Failure to meet these obligations may be viewed as course abandonment, and a failing grade will be assigned. If you are experiencing major illnesses, absences due to university activities, or other large-scale issues, contact the instructor immediately to formulate a resolution (if possible). Notifying your instructor after the fact will not be sufficient to warrant a resolution unless there was no other option.
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** You are responsible for reading all announcements posted by the instructor. Check the announcements each time you login to be sure you have read all of them since your last login session.
- **COURSE-RELATED QUESTIONS:** Post course-related questions to the General Questions/Concerns discussion board. Asking course-related questions in this way allows other participants with the same question to benefit from the responses. Also, make sure you review this forum prior to posting a question; it may have already been asked and answered in previous posts. Except Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, questions will be generally answered by the instructor within 48 hours.
- **EMAIL POLICY:** **Messages in Blackboard** is the preferred method to contact your instructor. Except for Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, instructors will respond to messages generally within 24 hours. Such messages should only be used to communicate personal or confidential matters; otherwise, please use the General Questions/Concerns discussion board within the course.
- **NETIQUETTE:** Due to the casual communication common in the online environment, participants are sometimes tempted to relax their grammar, spelling, and/or professionalism; however, remember you should always present yourself professionally—your communication should be appropriate. Also, please note that in the online environment you do not have the advantage of voice inflection or gestures. As a result, sarcasm can come across very negative, so this form of communication should be avoided.

Grading Methods: Students will be graded by the following:

- **EXAMS (80 points each):** There are four exams scheduled during the course of the semester which will be administered through blackboard. **You must take the four exams in order to pass this class and no make-ups will be given!** Not doing so will result in a failing grade. Exams will contain a combination of multiple-choice, matching, fill in the blank, true/false and listening questions. **Spelling and grammar do count and no corrections will be made due to those types of errors.** Each exam will cover material presented in each unit and will not be cumulative. Unit exams will be available from Thursday at 8am to Friday at 5pm of the assigned week. The exams will not be timed however they must be completed by the due date. All pertinent dates can be found on the course schedule below.
- **QUIZZES (20 points each):** At the conclusion of each module (excluding the first week of classes and when there is an exam scheduled), there will be a quiz. Each quiz will contain ten questions and you will have thirty minutes to finish. There will be no make-ups for quizzes however the lowest quiz grade will be dropped for a total of nine quizzes graded. Module quizzes will be available from Thursday at 8am to Friday at 5pm of the assigned week. All pertinent dates can be found on the course schedule below.
- **DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS (4 posts, 40 points each):**
 - There will be a Discussion Board Assignment during the last module of each unit. These discussions are graded discussions. Your posts must be professional, well organized, grammatically correct, and free of misspellings. Additionally, any content quoted, paraphrased, or gleaned from references must be properly cited (see Plagiarism

and APA)*. This policy includes references to work from your co-learners. Interaction is a substantial portion of your grade.

- Each Discussion Board Assignment will be available Saturday at 8am. (Check the course schedule)
- For each Discussion Board Assignment you will be required to make a minimum of 3 posts to receive full credit:
 - One original post in response to the instructor's post (100-200 words in length)
DUE: Tuesday at 11:59pm of the assigned week
 - Two responses (50-100 words in length) to co-learners posts.
DUE: Friday at 5pm of the assigned week
- The responses must contribute to the conversation through supportive addition or critique. When the responses are of the latter, they must argue the issue, never the author.
- The posts should be entered directly into the discussions, not in the form of an attachment. Attachments should be held to a minimum and only if needed for illustration, e.g., chart, image, or table.
- Follow up responses can be posted until the discussion board closes.
- A Rubric will be used to grade the discussion board posts and it can be viewed in the grade book prior to submission of the required posts. All pertinent dates can be found on the course schedule below.
- WIKI PROJECT (150 points): As a final project, each student as part of a group, will create an original Wiki page on one major artist/group in Jazz to demonstrate thorough knowledge of that particular artist's/group's contribution to both the musical genre and American society through music.
- All information should be accurate, professional, well organized, grammatically correct, and free of misspellings.
 - Additionally, any content quoted, paraphrased, or gleaned from references must be properly cited (see Plagiarism and APA). **APA, Turabian, or MLA are acceptable methods of citation. However, the use of such methods must be correct.
 - Beginning the second week of classes, you will be assigned a group in order to complete this project. There will be on average four students per group. It is up to your group to decide via your groups' discussion board , chat or messages the topic of your particular Wiki. Each student is expected to complete an equal amount of work on the project.
 - A Rubric will be used to grade the Wiki and it can be viewed in the grade book prior to submission of the required project.
 - The final project is due the thirteenth week of classes.
 - You must submit your section of the project INDIVIDUALLY. Do not let one member of the group submit the project for all members! If this happens, those who have no measurable participation in Blackboard will receive a zero for the project!!

Grading Policy: Your final grade will be determined by the following criteria:

Exams	320 points
Quizzes	180 points
Discussion Board Posts	160 points
Wiki Project	150 points
Total	810 points

The scale below will be used for calculating final grades (grades will be rounded up, i.e. 92.5%=93%):

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% or below				

- **PLEASE NOTE:** No extra-credit is offered for this class so be sure to complete all assignments when they are due!

Makeups: Makeup exams will be possible only to those students who have either petitioned me in advance of the exam date by email with a valid reason, or have an emergency situation that came up at the last minute. **Students can petition for a makeup after the exam dates only in the case of an emergency.**

- You must petition to take a makeup exam via Blackboard messages that includes the following information:
 - A detailed explanation of why you cannot take the exam at the regular time. Although I will use my discretion, typically I will allow makeup exams in the cases of school related activities, funerals, and certain family situations. Some of the reasons that are not acceptable include: oversleeping, “I thought the exam was *next* Thursday,” “My internet would not work,” etc.
- **If your petition does not contain the information requested above, it will not be answered. Please make sure that it is presented in a clearly worded, straightforward manner.**
- If you know before the exam date that you need to take a makeup, your petition must be sent *before* the scheduled exam date. If an unexpected situation comes up at the last minute that requires you to take a makeup, you must petition within three days after the exam date. Students who do not meet these requirements will not be permitted to take a makeup.
- **Makeups must be taken within one week of the exam date.**
- **You cannot makeup more than one exam.**

Religious/University Approved Activities Accommodation:

- In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments.
- Students who wish to be excused from course work, class activities, or examinations must notify the instructor in advance of their intention to participate in religious observation and request an excused absence. The instructor will provide a reasonable opportunity to make up such excused absences.
- Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the director of Equal Opportunity Programs. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University’s established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination.
- Students who wish to be excused from course work, class activities or examinations due to University-approved functions must notify the instructor via written message and request an excused absence.

Technical Problem Resolution Procedure: In the online environment, there is always a possibility of technical issues (e.g., lost connection, hardware or software failure). Many of these can be resolved relatively quickly, but if you wait to the last minute before due dates, the chances of these glitches affecting your success are greatly increased. Please plan appropriately. If a problem occurs, it is essential you take immediate action to document the issue so I can verify and take appropriate action to resolve the problem. Please take the following steps when a problem occurs:

1. If you can, make a Print Screen of the monitor when the problem occurred. Save the Print Screen as a .jpg file. If you are unfamiliar with creating a Print Screen file, visit <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/141-print-screen-screen-capture-windows-mac-os-x-and-unix-linux>.
2. Complete an Online Support Services ticket at <http://www.fau.edu/helpdesk>. Make sure you complete the form entirely and give a full description of your problem so the Help Desk staff will have the pertinent information in order to assist you properly. This includes:
 - a. Select “Blackboard (Student)” for the Ticket Type.
 - b. Input the Course ID.
 - c. In the Summary/Additional Details section, include your operating system, Internet browser, and Internet service provider (ISP).
 - d. Attach the Print Screen file, if available.
3. Send me a message within Blackboard to notify me of the problem. Include all pertinent information of the incident (2b-d above).
4. If you do not have access to Blackboard, send me an email with all pertinent information of the incident (2b-d above).
5. If you do not have access to a computer, call me with all pertinent information of the incident. If I am not available, make sure you leave a detailed message.
6. If you do not hear back from Online Support Services or myself within a timely manner (48 hours), it is your responsibility to follow up with the appropriate person until a resolution is obtained.

Plagiarism Detection: Each student is expected to complete his/her assignments and tests on their own. Any essays/wikis that are submitted will be filtered through SafeAssign. Papers with an originality report of more than 25% non-original material will be referred to the Dean's office for review. Plagiarism may result in academic warning. In addition, the paper will be considered failed and receive a grade of zero.

Disability Policy Statement: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010); or at the Treasure Coast, CO 117 (772-873-3441) – and follow all OSD procedures. <http://osd.fau.edu/>

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 http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf

Incomplete Policy: A grade of Incomplete will be assigned only in the case of extreme emergency or illness.

Course Schedule: This course will be divided into four units based on the schedule below:

Unit	Week	Module	Topic	Assessment	Available/Due
Unit 1: Predecessors and Early Jazz	Week 1	Module 1	Understanding and Defining Jazz		Monday, January 7th @ 8am
	Week 2	Module 2	African Music and the Pre-Jazz Era		Saturday, January 12th @ 8am
				Quiz 1 – Modules 1 & 2	Thursday, January 17th @ 8am through Friday, January 18th @ 5pm
	Week 3	Module 3	Jazz Takes Root		Saturday, January 19th @ 8am
				Discussion Board Assignment 1	Saturday, January 19th @ 8am
				EXAM 1 - Unit 1	Thursday, January 24th @ 8am through Friday, January 25th @ 5pm
Unit 2: The Jazz Age	Week 4	Module 1	Chicago and Louis Armstrong		Saturday, January 26th @ 8am
				Quiz 2	Thursday, January 31st @ 8am through Friday, February 1st @ 5pm
	Week 5	Module 2	White Chicago and Classic Blues		Saturday, February 2nd @ 8am
				Quiz 3	Thursday, February 7th @ 8am through Friday, February 8th @ 5pm
	Week 6	Module 3	New York City		Saturday, February 9th @ 8am
				Quiz 4	Thursday, February 14th @ 8am through Friday, February 15th @ 5pm
	Week 7	Module 4	Kansas City		Saturday, February 16th @ 8am
				Discussion Board Assignment 2	Saturday, February 16th @ 8am
Unit 3: The Swing Era and Bebop				EXAM 2 – Unit 2	Thursday, February 21st @ 8am through Friday, February 22nd @ 5pm
	Week 8	Module 1	The Swing Era		Saturday, February 23rd @ 8am
				Quiz 5	Thursday, February 28th @ 8am through Friday, March 1st @ 5pm

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Spring Break - Monday, March 4th through Sunday, March 10th

Week 9	Module 2	Duke Ellington and Other Important Bandleaders		Monday, March 11th @ 8am
			Quiz 6	Thursday, March 14th @ 8am through Friday, March 15th @ 5pm
Week 10	Module 3	Bebop Part I		Saturday, March 16th @ 8am
			Quiz 7	Thursday, March 21st @ 8am through Friday, March 22nd @ 5pm
Week 11	Module 4	Bebop Part II		Saturday, March 23rd @ 8am
			Discussion Board Assignment 3	Saturday, March 23rd @ 8am
			EXAM 3 – Unit 3	Thursday, March 28th @ 8am through Friday, March 29th @ 5pm

Unit 4: Fragmentation, Jazz in the 1960s, And Current Trends	Week 12	Module 1	Cool Jazz, Hard Bop and Other Jazz Styles from the 1950s		Saturday, March 30th @ 8am
				Quiz 8	Thursday, April 4th @ 8am through Friday, April 5th @ 5pm
				Quiz 9	Thursday, April 11th @ 8am through Friday, April 12th @ 5pm
				Wiki Project	Due Friday, April 12th @ 5pm
Week 13	Module 2	Miles Davis Part I and Free Jazz			Saturday, April 6th @ 8am
Week 14	Module 3	Miles Davis Part II, John Coltrane and Fusion			Saturday, April 13th @ 8am
				Quiz 10	Thursday, April 18th @ 8am through Friday, April 19th @ 5pm
Week 15	Module 4	Jazz Today			Saturday, April 20th @ 8am
				Discussion Board Assignment 4	Saturday, April 20th @ 8am
				EXAM 4 – Unit 4	Thursday, April 25th @ 8am through Sunday, April 28th @ 5pm

****You must complete the Orientation Quiz in the opening module and receive a grade of 100% before you can access any of the Learning Units.**