

Jazz In American Society
MUH 3801

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

Prerequisite Courses: Not applicable

Course Logistics: Semester, Year

Instructor(s): Mr. David Rossow, Instructor of Music
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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 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.

Required Text: Larson, Thomas E., *The History and Tradition of Jazz*. 4th Ed., ISBN: 978-0-7575-7301-9 It is available as an eBook version at the following address: <http://www.kendallhunt.com/store-product.aspx?id=7647>

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 chapter and questions on each exam pertaining to what you have listened to.
- You are required to purchase an i>clicker remote for in-class participation. i>clicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions I pose during class, and you will be graded on that feedback and participation. **In order to receive credit, you will need to register your remote online by the start of the third class. Clicker points will start the third class of the semester so be sure you purchase yours by then!** To register, login to Blackboard <http://blackboard.fau.edu>, select the appropriate course and then click on “Tools” in the course menu. Click on the link as displayed below.



Register Your i>clicker Remote ID

Click the above link to register your i>clicker and get credit for your votes.

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You will then be prompted for your remote ID which is the series of numbers and sometimes letters found on the back of the remote. If the remote ID is illegible, then you must see me as soon as possible (again at the latest by the third class) so I can give you your code. **The i>clicker response system will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily.** Any questions missed cannot be made up!

Communication Policies:

- **TIME COMMITMENT:** Students often misjudge the amount of time necessary for successful completion of this 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
- If you need to send me an email via FAU, all electronic communication must originate from a valid FAU email address. Any email sent from an email provider outside of FAU will not be read or replied to. It is not uncommon for me to receive up to 50 student emails a day, so it is extremely important for your emails to be clear and understandable. With that in mind, please include the following information in your email correspondence:
 - Your full name. If you do not identify yourself, I will not respond to your email.
 - Class and section number
 - The entire history of any previous emails that have been sent on that particular subject. Please configure your email application to include the entire message in your reply so I can keep track of what has transpired up to that point.
 - **Please do not treat email as a text message; proper grammar is expected!**

If this information is not on your email, it becomes very difficult for me to resolve issues, answer questions, or solve problems for you. I can be of greater service to you if you take the time to include this information. If you

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would prefer to talk to me in person, I would be more than happy to set up a meeting in my office. Please contact me by email to do this.

Course Requirements: Students are expected to:

- Attend class, arrive on-time and stay for the entire class (questions will be asked at the start and end of class).
- Be quiet and attentive during lectures, playing of recordings and videos, etc.
- Take notes on lectures/videos/discussions, etc. **There will be material presented in class that cannot be found in the textbook!** An outline of the PowerPoint presentation with lines for notes is available on blackboard which can be printed out and brought to class or downloaded into which you can type notes.

Grading Methods: Students will be graded by the following:

- EXAMS: There are four exams scheduled during the course of the semester which will be administered through Blackboard: <http://blackboard.fau.edu> . **You must take the first three exams in order to pass this class.** Failure to do so will result in a failing grade. The first three exams will each contain 40 questions and will be worth 80 points. Exams will contain a combination of multiple-choice, matching, fill in the blank, true/false questions and listening identification of music cuts. Spelling and grammar do count and no corrections will be made due to those types of errors.
 - Exam 4, given during the scheduled final exam time for this class (see course schedule below), is an extra credit exam that will give you the opportunity to earn up to 20 extra points. The exam will contain 40 questions, each worth 1/2 point. Keep in mind that Exam 4 can only help your grade; no points will be deducted for missed questions. The extra credit exam will be cumulative and will cover material and music from the beginning of the semester. **If you are happy with your point total after taking exam 3, you do not have to take exam 4. Keep in mind, however, that participation points can still be earned/lost after exam 3.**
- PARTICIPATION: Questions will be asked during class via i>clicker that relate to the material presented in previous classes, the current lecture and also on videos and music played during class. There will be on average six questions per class that you are expected to answer. You must answer 75% of the questions polled (usually four) in order to receive the participation points assigned to each lecture. Each lecture is worth two participation points. In addition, each question will be graded on performance (whether or not you answer the question correctly). Questions answered correctly will be worth .15 points. Responding with an incorrect answer will earn you .05 points. The total number of points possible per lecture is 3.2. Answering questions with multiple clickers is considered cheating and those students will be permanently removed from class with an F recorded on their transcript.
- **IMPORTANT: It is your responsibility to check blackboard and make sure you are receiving the i>clicker points assigned to each lecture.** If for some reason no points are showing, then you have not registered your clicker or your clicker is not working correctly. Any problems need to be brought to my attention immediately! Do not wait until the end of the semester since it will be difficult to troubleshoot your particular problem.
- PLEASE NOTE: **Keep in mind that even though Blackboard will show that there are a maximum of 340 points given, your grade will be calculated using 320 as a denominator.** Any difficulties with the exams due to computer/blackboard/internet issues must be brought to the instructors' attention BEFORE the exam is due. Any student who attempts to gain access to any exam after the due date without the instructors' permission (i.e. asking other students for passwords, etc.) will be removed permanently from class and an F recorded on their transcript.

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Grading Policy: Your goal in this class is to get 320 points (three exams at 80 points each plus 80 participation points). Your scores will be updated regularly on Blackboard to allow you to keep track of your class standing. The scale below is used for calculating final grades:

Point Total	Percent	Final Grade
296+	92.5-100%	A
287-295	89.6-92%	A-
277-286	86.5-89.2%	B+
264-276	82.5-86.3%	B
255-263	79.6-82%	B-
245-254	76.5-79.2%	C+
232-244	72.5-76%	C
223-231	69.6-72%	C-
213-222	66.5-69.2%	D+
200-212	62.5-66.3%	D
191-199	59.6-62.2%	D-
≤190	59%	F

Classroom Etiquette:

- Students are expected to refrain from the use of handheld Internet or texting devices during class and may only use computers to aid in note taking. Should a student be found in violation of this etiquette, they will be asked to leave class.
- Cell phones should be turned off.
- Students are asked to sit in the chairs in a proper manner and keep feet from residing on other furniture.
- Out of courtesy to other students and to the professor, students are asked to arrive in a timely manner.
- No food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted.
- Please be courteous of the space and pick up after yourself when you leave.
- Due to the large size of the class, unnecessary talking during lectures, recordings, demonstrations, videos, and live performances is prohibited. Any disruptive students will be asked to leave.

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.

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- **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.

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/>

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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: Be advised, this schedule is subject to change.

	Week	Topic	
Predecessors and Early Jazz	Week 1	Understanding and Defining Jazz	
	Week 2	African Music and the Pre-Jazz Era	
	Week 3	Jazz Takes Root	EXAM 1
The Jazz Age	Week 4	Chicago and Louis Armstrong	
	Week 5	White Chicago and Classic Blues	
	Week 6	New York City	
	Week 7	Kansas City	EXAM 2
The Swing Era and Bebop	Week 8	The Swing Era	
	Week 9	Duke Ellington and Other Important Bandleaders	
	Week 10	Bebop Part I	
	Week 11	Bebop Part II	EXAM 3
Fragmentation, Jazz in the 1960s, And Current Trends	Week 12	Cool Jazz, Hard Bop and Other Jazz Styles from the 1950s	
	Week 13	Miles Davis Part I and Free Jazz	
	Week 14	Miles Davis Part II, John Coltrane and Fusion	
	Week 15	Jazz Today	EXAM 4