



Music 141 – Jazz Appreciation (3 Units)

Associate Degree Applicable: General Studies, Music for Transfer, Local GE Plan, CSU GE Plan, IGETC, Arts & Humanities

Transferable: UC, CSU, and most accredited four-year institutions (keep this syllabus)

SPRING 2020: DE

Instructor: Dr. Joshua R. Wentz

Phone: (818) 833-3357

Contact: wentzj@lamission.edu

Web: www.lamission.edu/~wentzj

Office Hours: Mon AND Wed 2-3:30 pm OR by appointment

Office Locations: AMP building 202-h

Course Description: A survey of twentieth-century jazz including ragtime, blues, New Orleans and Chicago jazz, stride piano, swing, bebop, cool jazz, hard bop, modal jazz, third stream, avant-garde and free jazz, fusion, and experimental jazz styles.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the elements of jazz by using appropriate terminology and by identifying jazz instruments and ensembles.
2. Students will be able to analyze jazz in its historic context.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the musical elements which comprise the various genres of Jazz music in America, from its earliest pre-cursors to modern day styles.
2. Show the significance of the personalities of the major artists to jazz and identify their unique contributions to the music and their influence on subsequent musicians.
3. Evaluate the social context during the past one hundred years in America, in which pre-jazz and jazz styles emerged, with particular attention on the politics, economics, and racial context in the country.

Books and Required Materials:

- Required textbook: **Scott Deveaux & Gary Giddins, *Jazz: Essential Listening*** (ISBN-10: 0393935639, ISBN-13: 9780393935639) – Check to make sure you have the OLDER edition that's black and lime green on the cover.
- Computer/iPad/iPhone/listening device
- Headphones
- Lined Note Book (or loose paper) for notes and quizzes
- Thumb drive / flash drive
- Pencils
- Four scantron forms for exam days (available in the bookstore)

Policies

(as adapted from Los Angeles Mission College Catalog)

Attendance: This is an online class, and as such, you should have constant access to technology. A good working computer with Microsoft Office, as well as a reliable internet connection is required. All your quizzes and exams will be graded via Canvas and you will be able to immediately see which questions you got correct and which questions you got wrong, including the correct answer so that you can learn what you might have missed. For papers and reactions, please allow me up to 48 hours to grade and return papers with comments.

Communications: I am typically on Canvas in the evening between 9-10pm PST for chat or to answer questions, or discuss the class, and I am always available via email at wentzj@lamission.edu. For more information, please visit the Instructor Contact page on Canvas for more information about communication, office hours, and expectations.

Expectations: This course is mostly self-paced, in that you can choose which assignments to do and when you want to do them. However, this is a short-term class that is VERY fast-paced and there are certain chapters, listening assignments, and discussion board posts that will expire on certain dates [see Home page] so be sure to check out those assignments with a deadline and finish them before they disappear.

Standards of Student Conduct: Students are expected to maintain a professional level of conduct to facilitate a learning environment. Be respectful of others at all times. **Cheating and Plagiarism** is the “wrongful appropriation” and “stealing and publication” of another author’s “language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions” and the representation of them as one’s own original work. Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty. The instructor reserves the right to determine if cheating or plagiarism has occurred; if it does the student will receive a “F” on the assignment or exam, and may receive a “F” for the course.

Calendar

Spring 2020 LAMC Student Deadlines and College Holidays

- Classes begin: **February 10**
- Last day to add: Credit/Audit: **February 9**
- Last day to add a class with an Add Permission Code: **February 24**
- Last day to drop classes with a refund or without incurring fees: **February 23**
- Last day to drop classes with a “W” – A letter grade is required after this date – **May 10**
- Classes end: **June 1**
- FINAL EXAMS: **June 2 - 8**

Holidays (College CLOSED)

- President’s Day – **February 14 & 17**
- Non-Instructional Days – **February 15 & 16**
- Cesar Chavez Day – **March 31**
- Spring Break – **April 6 – April 12**
- Non-Instructional Day – **April 13**
- Memorial Day – **May 25**

Evaluation

Grading:	Discussion Boards	=	300 points	(25 each w/ extra credit possible)
	Listening Quizzes	=	181 points	(points vary on each)
	Reading/Chapter Quizzes	=	474 points	(points vary on each)
	Listening Activities	=	100 points	(2 at 50 points each)
	Jazz Concert Report	=	100 points	(2 nd report possible for 50 EC points)
	<u>Jazz Legend FINAL Project</u>	=	100 points	
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	=	1,255 POINTS	

Assessment

Discussions: We will have a discussion board on Canvas that the class can access and there will be a discussion board question presented every week that corresponds with the lecture. You will read the chapters, do a little research, and give an informed response with academic thought and attention to detail. The initial post is worth 15 points. Once you post, you will be able to read your classmates' posts and you will respond to at least two with substantial content (do not simply agree with them). Each valid post is up to 5 points, with extra credit available for stellar posts and additional discussions on multiple posts.

Quizzes: There is a reading quiz on every chapter and a listening quiz for most chapters. The quizzes are built into the Modules and each have a due date. Please check Canvas frequently, to see upcoming assignments that are due. If you miss a quiz, I am unable to re-open it for one student so no late work.

Listening Act: There are two listening activities that give the student an opportunity to listen, compare, contrast and synthesize different styles and artists in an academic paper. This is similar to the discussion boards, but focus primarily on listening and understanding jazz music and do not require class discussion.

Concert Rep: You will attend a live jazz concert or recital this semester, either as part of the class, or on your own. You will turn in a typed four-page report outlining the concepts of music you've learned throughout the semester and highlighting important components of jazz (improvisation, instrumentation, form, etc.) A rubric with detailed instructions is on Canvas.

Jazz Legend: You will choose one jazz legend from a given list (or choose your own, with approval) and write an article that will include biographical information, the musician's unique contributions to jazz, the culture or era in which they lived and worked, close analysis of two of their songs, along with mp3's or videos of the songs, and images.

Scale:

A = 3.8 - 4.0	C = 2.0 - 2.2	A = 100% - 90%
A- = 3.5 - 3.7	C- = 1.6 - 1.9	B = 89% - 80%
B+ = 3.2 - 3.4	D+ = 1.3 - 1.5	C = 79% - 70%
B = 2.9 - 3.1	D = 1.2 - .09	D = 69% - 60%
B- = 2.6 - 2.8	D- = 0.7 - 0.9	F = 59% - 0%
C+ = 2.3 - 2.5	F = 0.0 - 0.6	