

# MUS-1520: JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: MUS-1520 : Jazz Ensemble**

**Board of Trustees:**

May 2024

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2024

**Subject Code**

MUS - Music

**Course Number:**

1520

**Title:**

Jazz Ensemble

**Catalog Description:**

Study and experimentation in performance of jazz ensemble literature and styles. Public performance required. May be repeated for credit, however, no more than 4 credits may be applied to degree requirements.

**Credit Hour(s):**

1

**Lecture Hour(s):**

0

**Lab Hour(s):**

3

**Other Hour(s):**

0

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

Departmental approval: audition.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Demonstrate college-level performance skills of Jazz Ensemble music, including ensemble playing skills, musicianship, improvisation techniques, sight-reading, rehearsal technique, aesthetic comprehension, rehearsal and performance etiquette.

**Objective(s):**

1. Demonstrate skills in rehearsal techniques and ensemble performance including sight reading, creation of ensemble intonation, and tone quality.
  2. Perform in recital or concert as part of the jazz ensemble.
  3. Demonstrate performance of appropriate rhythms, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation.
  4. Demonstrate various jazz styles in performance.
  5. Demonstrate improvisation techniques for a variety of types of jazz.
  6. Demonstrate differences in style and interpretation in performance.
  7. Discuss the importance of regularity and self-discipline in band performance through regular, prompt attendance and studious approach to rehearsal.
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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Results of initial audition.
2. Improvement from point of the audition.
3. Preparation for rehearsals and performances.
4. Jazz theory homework.
5. Ensemble sectional assignments.
6. Participation in rehearsal.
7. Participation in performances.

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Sight-reading skills.
  - a. Score scanning
  - b. Form
  - c. Key
  - d. Rhythm patterns and motives
  - e. Melody vs. Harmony
  - f. Register considerations and Balance
  - g. Instrumental characteristics
2. Band music in various appropriate jazz styles
  - a. Bebop
  - b. Cool Jazz
  - c. Jazz Fusion
  - d. Free Jazz
  - e. Swing
  - f. Big Band
  - g. Dixieland
  - h. Hard Bop
  - i. Latin Jazz
  - j. Afro-Cuban
  - k. Ragtime
  - l. Smooth Jazz
  - m. Boogie-woogie
  - n. Stride
  - o. Avant-garde
3. Musicianship
  - a. Intonation
  - b. Ensemble
  - c. Balance
  - d. Blend
  - e. Tone quality
  - f. Rhythmic performance
  - g. Phrasing
  - h. Dynamics
  - i. Articulations
4. Performance practices in Big Band and Combo styles
5. Performance practices of improvisation
6. Performance etiquette
  - a. Presentation
  - b. Behavior in TACET sections and focus
  - c. Dress attentiveness
  - d. Communication with the audience
7. Player discipline
  - a. Regular rehearsal attendance and its affect on performance
  - b. Self-discipline in the development of music performance skills

**Resources**

DeVeaux, Scott, and Gary Giddins. *Jazz: Essential Listening*. W. W. Norton and Company, 2019.

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Whitener, Scott. *A Complete Guide to Brass Instruments and Pedagogy*. Cengage Learning, 2006.

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Bangham, Daniel. *Woodwind Instruments: A Practical Guide for Technicians*. The Crowood Press, 2023.

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Fountain, Robin. *The Ensemble Musician: Six Principles for a More Rewarding Life in Music*. GIA Publications, 2020.

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Bucur, Voichita. *Handbook of Materials for Percussion Instruments*. Spring Char, 2022.

---

Smith, Ray. *The Real Jazz Pedagogy Book: How to Build a Superior Jazz Ensemble*. Outskirts Press, 2018.

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Levine, Mark. *The Jazz Theory Book*. Sher Music, 1995.

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Caniato, Michele. *The Jazz Ensemble Companion: A Guide to Outstanding Big Band Arrangements Selected by Some of the Foremost Jazz Educators*. Rowman and Littlefield Education, 2009.

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Sergio, Nicola and Marc Dana. *SOS Improv - Musical Improvisation Method*. Kindle Edition. SD Publishing, 2023.

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Reyman, Randall. *Improvise Jazz Like the Pros: 10 Jazz Improvisation Concepts Used by Jazz Professionals*. Independent Publishing, 2020.

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#### **Resources Other**

1. National Association for Music Education, Council for Jazz Education. 2023 <https://nafme.org/group/council-for-jazz-education/>
2. Music Publishing Organizations:
  - Boosey and Hawkes Publishing
  - G. Schirmer/Hal Leonard Publications
  - Lorenz Corporation
  - GIA Publications
  - Shawnee Press
  - Hampton Roads
  - Excelsia
  - Galaxy
  - Manhattan Beach Music

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