MUSIC 589.005: PERFORMANCE PRACTICES:
JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Dr. Chris Beaty, Director
Musie Building – Rm 218
903-886-5302
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Spring, 2013

General Information
Class Time: TBA
Class Location: Music Building  Credit Hours: One
Office Hours  Call for appointment

Course Overview, Expectations and Goals
This ensemble studies jazz in its various styles through rehearsal, presentation of material, assignment and group performances. This course also places an emphasis on improvisation by educating and encouraging students in the fundamentals of style in the jazz idiom. Basic musical competence and understanding, as well as aesthetic understanding of jazz performance, is developed. This course also aims to equip future educators to address stylistic and pedagogical aspects of jazz ensemble performance. Students should be in attendance on time, with all necessary instruments and accessories, and with all required sheet music (provided by the instructor). Additional duties may be assigned within the ensemble to graduate students, including leading sectionals and taking additional solos.

Concurrent with departmental policy, the objectives for this course specifically include 1) Exhibit accurate individual, sectional and ensemble intonation and rhythm along with fundamental and advanced instrumental techniques while performing a varied repertoire of music within the ensemble; 2) Perform expressively a varied repertoire of music representing styles and diverse cultures within the ensemble; 3) Utilize standard musical terminology to describe intervals, music notation, chord structure, rhythm/meter, harmonic texture, form, and music symbols and terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation; 4) Utilize problem-solving skills to identify and correct problems with pitch, rhythm/meter, articulation, phrasing, and dynamics within a rehearsal setting.

Grading
Grading is based on attendance of rehearsals, sectional rehearsals and especially performances; demonstration of effort and competence and willingness to contribute to the overall success of the ensemble. As the jazz ensemble arrangements are expensive and provided by the department, students who do not turn in their sheet music at the end of the semester should expect to receive a failing grade (unless arrangements are made for the student to replace the missing materials). If arrangement to replace the music is not made by the student, a transcript hold may be placed as well.
Attendance Policy

Attendance for the course is mandatory. It is the policy of this ensemble that anytime a student is to miss a rehearsal, this student should call or email the instructor as soon as possible and no later than a few hours before rehearsal. This allows the instructor to plan accordingly. Whenever possible, the student should find a substitute musician for the rehearsal that they will miss. Although two excused absences are allowed, given the nature of a rehearsing ensemble 100% attendance is always important. Because ensemble courses culminate in performances that require participation of all members of the ensemble, unexcused absences from performances will result in a minimum of the reduction of two letter grades.

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.)

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Halladay Student Services Building, Room 303 A/D
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835; Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

University Mission Statement

Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

Music Department Mission Statement

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.