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.

Objectives: To give students an introduction to the historical periods of jazz through class lectures/discussions and to increase an awareness of style characteristics with various listening examples. Social and economic aspects related to jazz will also be a focus in lectures and class listening examples as well as the many multicultural facets of the music.

Course requirements/grades:
- Readings from articles and/or internet sources.
- Active listening to the music under discussion. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that this is a listening class as well as a reading class and that familiarity with the works, composers and performers under discussion is essential. There are many on-line sources available if you need additional information.
- Attendance at two “jazz” concerts during the semester. Each of the concerts will be the subject of a concert review, two pages (approx. 500 words) in length, to be turned in by the due dates indicated on the schedule of classes.
- One, three-four page (approx. 800-1000 words) essay/research document, on a topic discussed later in class.
- All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, normal margins, and normal sized font (10-12)!
- Your grade in this course will be determined by the completion of three written exams, biweekly quizzes, three written assignments and class attendance. Each exam will have a small listening portion as well as a mix of multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank and short essay questions and will constitute 60% of your final grade. 20% of your grade will be from the quizzes and the remaining 20% will be from the essay/concert reports and class attendance and participation. Grading scale: A=100-90, B=89-80, C=79-70, D=69-60, F=below 60

Attendance: We will use an attendance reward policy this semester. This means that if you come (on time) to every class you will get 4 percentage points added on to your final grade. 3 percentage points will be awarded with only 1-2 missed classes and 2 percentage points if you have 3-4 missed classes. An excused absence will be at the discretion of the professor and WILL REQUIRE documentation. Being tardy to class twice will also equal one absence. I reserve the right to drop anyone from the class who misses more than 7 class meetings.

Classroom rules:
1) Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate mode only before attending class.
2) No text messaging in class.
3) Please no eating or drinking (except bottled water) in class. This is a new classroom so please help keep it looking “new.”

TAMUC Jazz Concert dates this semester include:
- Halloween Concert—October 30th, 7:30pm Finney Concert Hall
- Concert—December 7th, 7:30pm Finney Concert Hall
- Holiday Concerts—Dec. 11th & 12th, 7:30pm Finney Concert Hall

Note: I will announce other jazz concert dates in the region as they become available. The Holiday concert does require an admission fee and may only be used for one concert review.

Conduct & Professionalism

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Student 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
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu