JAZZ PERCUSSION GROUP
Music 2800N, 4800N, & 5800N
Spring 2010
W & F 1:30-2:30 PM, HUM 331 & 329

Conductor: Dr. Douglas R. Overmier
Office: HUM 340
Office Hours: As posted on Rm 340 or by appointment

Phone (678) 839-6267
e-mail: dovermie@westga.edu

Course Description
The Jazz Percussion Group provides unique chamber performance experiences, improvisational experiences, and composition exercises in a wide range of jazz styles and settings for percussion students at UWG. The music performed in this organization varies from semester to semester and is selected to provide a challenging opportunity for musical growth. Membership is by audition only.

Required Materials, Responsibilities, and Obligations
Each member will be supplied with a music folder and music. All music must be returned at the end of the semester or earlier if requested. Missing parts will result in fines covering the replacement and shipping of the new parts. Students must provide all striking implements. In addition, all students are to provide a pencil at all rehearsals. Refer to the "Percussive Handbook at UWG" handout regarding specific responsibilities.

Course Objectives
Members of the Percussion Group will:
1. be given the opportunity to rehearse and perform a wide variety of jazz music for percussion at high level
2. continue to develop ensemble performance and sight-reading skills while gaining an awareness of their role as a chamber ensemble performer
3. demonstrate a variety of performance techniques on individual and multiple percussion instruments
4. demonstrate a high level of improvisation
5. demonstrate a high level of performance quality as an individual and ensemble performer

Graduate Students Will
6. Rehearse and arrange music for the ensemble
7. Perform solo material during various performances

Grading Policy & Attendance Requirements
Jazz Percussion Group members earn one hour of academic credit for their participation. Because the JPG is an extension of the applied music study, all principal percussion members MUST have a concurrent “A” average in applied music. Failure to maintain an “A” will jeopardize membership in the ensemble. Monthly audits may be performed for each applied percussionist.

During the first week of classes, each student will receive a schedule of events for the entire semester. These dates are required attendance by all members. All anticipated performances, rehearsals, and tours have been listed on the attached itinerary. Due to the nature of the ensemble, additional performances are likely to be added. Proposed performances will be accepted or rejected by decision of a majority vote of the performing members. All members are required to comply with the written and amended itinerary and dates accepted by vote of the membership. Failure to comply will result in the immediate dismissal from the ensemble.

Students MUST be prepared to perform for the JEN Conference in St. Louis, MO on May 20-22, 2010. Plus, enrolled students agree to subsidize any expenses not covered by UWG for this appearance. Select students may participate in an overseas tour the following week. Students MUST secure a VISA or Passport as soon as possible and assume all expenses for this item. This is a major commitment and students are encouraged to consider the weight of this decision before joining the ensemble.
Grades will be based on attendance, compliance with the stated schedule, attitude, willingness to take direction, preparedness, and individual performance effort. * Students are encouraged to keep a personal calendar. There are no written examinations.

*Individual performance effort will be determined by assessing individual attendance with the student’s ability to prepare for rehearsal and subsequently perform. Students arriving late to a rehearsal will be counted unexcused and absent. Fines will be assessed for each minute a student is late. Persons missing two rehearsals for any reason over the semester will be removed from the ensemble. Persons attending rehearsal but are unprepared will be counted as absent. Individuals with frequent documented excused absences that are still able to perform the assigned parts with 90% accuracy will perform at the discretion of the director.

Absences: None A (semester grade)  
One C (semester grade)  
Two F Withdrawn from the class with F as the semester grade

*Excused absences are typically defined as unavoidable circumstances.

* Absence from all or any part of rehearsal will be considered one unexcused absence pending justification.

*Absence from all or any part of a dress rehearsal or performance will result in the grade of F for the semester

Extenuating Circumstances: Any unavoidable absence from a rehearsal must be cleared 24 hours in advance* with Dr. Douglas R. Overmier

(Best) 1. Contact the director in person in advance. *  
2. Telephone the director in advance * and explanation your situation: (678) 839-6267 or dovermier@westga.edu.  
3. As a last resort, leave emergency messages on the machine at the above numbers.

- The director will determine if the requested absence is to be considered excused. If illness occurs frequently, you may be asked for written documentation from a physician. The mere fact that you have informed the director in advance does not guarantee you will be excused. Please be sure not to schedule routine health appointments, auditions, job interviews, academic advising appointments, car repairs, etc. during rehearsal time. Avoidable conflicts, such as these will not be excused even when permission is requested in advance.

SPECIAL NOTE: Due to the growing popularity of the JPG additional performance requests will occur. Each request will be handled on a first-come basis and voted on by the ensemble. Added dates will be treated as regularly scheduled assignments for those desiring to perform. It may be necessary to perform as a combo ensemble if too many persons cannot make a particular performance.

Additionally, the ensemble will perform, once again, in an international venue. It is imperative that people conduct themselves accordingly. Failure to do so may result in your extended stay. All university policies and procedures will apply to each performance. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in judicial action by the university and possibly the courts.
Syllabus
Jazz Percussion Group

It is advisable, that IF the JPG and JPQ are gigging professionally, that members avoid EVERY activity that could interfere with a performance schedule.

**ITINERARY**
REGULAR REHEARSALS ARE 1:25-2:20 W, F

**January**
6, 8
13, 15, 20, 22
27, 29
31
Audition Materials & Rehearsals
Rehearsals
NO REHEARSAL - GMEA
PREVIEW DAY 12:30 PM

**February**
3, 5, 10, 12
15
24, 26
Rehearsals
DESTINATION MUSIC, performance HUM 304, 3:00 PM
Rehearsals

**March**
3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19
22-26
31
Rehearsals
SPRING BREAK
HONORS DAY CONVOCATION – TCPA, NOON

**April**
2, 7, 9
9-11
11
14, 16, 21, 23
28
Rehearsal
Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival, Monterey, CA*
PREVIEW DAY 12:30 PM+
Rehearsals
7th ANNUAL NIGHT OF PERCUSSION

**May**
3
5
6
8
19
Spring Tour Rehearsal 1:30 PM
COMMENCEMENT BAND REHEARSAL 2-4
COMMENCEMENT BAND REHEARSAL 2-4
COMMENCEMENT – TBA
Kennedy Center, Washington D.C.*

**POSSIBLE ADDENDA:**
• Saxophone and Percussion Symposium
• There’s always something else (i.e.: recording session, Region Jazz Fests, etc).

* If Accepted and in place of the JEN Festival
+ If NOT attending the Monterey Festival
° If NOT attending Monterey