

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Email: [bgeyer@westga.edu](mailto:bgeyer@westga.edu)  
Office: Humanities 334  
Office Phone: (678)839-6275  
Office hours: to be announced

**Course Description:** Lessons in composition and scoring techniques for jazz combos and big bands. Students complete assignments by using traditional methods and by using the tools of music technology. All courses are repeatable for one or two hours of credit--one 25-minute lesson per week per credit hour.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will demonstrate at the upper-division level:

1. the ability to write jazz compositions from three horn parts, up to the large jazz ensemble (5 saxes, 4 or 5 trumpets, 4 or 5 trombones and rhythm section) in a variety of jazz styles.
2. the ability to compose and develop jazz melodic material in a variety of jazz styles.
3. the ability to manipulate jazz harmonic concepts in a variety of jazz styles.
4. the ability to compose background material to jazz melodic material in a variety of jazz styles.
5. an understanding of the various kinds of jazz articulation, phrasing, and special effects.
6. the ability to develop jazz formal patterns in a variety of jazz styles.
7. knowledge of the various technological resources available to the jazz composer/arranger.
8. an understanding of the role improvisation performs in jazz composition in a variety of jazz styles.

**Common Language for UWG Syllabi:** <https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

### **Course Details**

A lesson will be held each week of the semester except on official university holidays. Lesson assignments will include signposts and deadlines for the development, revision, and completion of compositions and arrangements. The preparation for each lesson, including the state of the arrangements and compositions, will make up the lesson grade according to the rubric (below). The final grade for the course will be the average of the lesson grades. Missed lessons may be assigned a grade of 0.

**Grading Rubric:** Assignments, concerts, and the recording will be graded on the following rubric, measuring your command over the material and commitment to the experience:

- 100%: complete command and commitment
- 90%: “almost there” except for a minor problem
- 80%: Satisfactory
- 67%: Struggling
- 0%: Incomplete or unsatisfactory

**Semester Grades:** 90–100%: A      80–89%: B      70–79%: C      60–69%: D      0–59%: F