

Jazz Ensemble
MUSC 4730
Dr. Geyer

Spring 2018
12:30–1:59 TR
Humanities 331

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Office Phone: (678)839-6275
Office hours: Monday, 12:10–2:10; Tuesday–Friday, 2:30–4:30; By appointment

Course Description: The study and performance of literature composed for jazz ensembles from original, transcribed, contemporary, and diverse cultural sources. Includes on-campus and sometimes off-campus performances. Open by audition to music-major and non-music-major students. This syllabus pertains to second- and third-year students; see MUSC 2730 for first- and second-year students.

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

1. the ability to perform jazz in a variety of styles in a large jazz ensemble.
2. knowledge of the various styles of large jazz ensemble music.
3. knowledge of the role of jazz improvisation in the various styles of large jazz ensemble music.
4. the ability to perform jazz in a public concert setting.

Course Details

This semester will include either four or five major events (the first is not confirmed):

1. Performance at a gala for the Miller Foundation, Atlanta, Feb. 5 (not confirmed)
2. The Sunbelt Jazz Festival, March 16, 7:30 (6:45 call), Townsend Center.
3. Performance at the Carrollton Amp, April 6, 7:00 (details TBD)
4. Studio Recording—during class time after the Amp concert
5. Spring Tour—day trips on 5/9 and 5/11; overnight trip on 5/14-15

For each event, you'll be graded on the totality of your professionalism, including punctuality, dress, preparation, and attitude. A missed event will result in a failing grade. Tardiness for a performance can result in the loss of 10% from your final grade.

If there are four events, each will be worth one fifth of your grade. If there are five events, each will be worth one sixth of your grade. For students in the 4000 level, the remaining portion of your grade will be assigned for your participation in helping the instructor run the ensemble, both administratively and musically.

Rehearsal Attendance

You must be present and punctual for at all scheduled Jazz Ensemble rehearsals. Any unexcused absences without an adequate substitution solution will result in a ten-point deduction from your final grade after two absences. Two tardies will equal one absence; anyone who isn't set up with their instrument and music at 12:30 will be counted as tardy, and two tardies will count as an absence.

Protocol for Missed Rehearsal: If you do need to be absent, follow these policies:

1. Arrange for a qualified substitute to cover all of your parts, and make sure that the substitute has all materials and skills necessary; your sub should be *more qualified than you* to play in the ensemble.
2. Find out from a peer what music we rehearsed, and submit a recording of your parts for those sections. Record yourself on your phone and send to the instructor via email or Google Drive.

Excused Absences: For *illness or other emergencies*, the absence will be excused if (1) you provide a substitute *and* (2) you provide a note from the health center or a doctor. For *non-emergency absences*, please contact the instructor at least two weeks ahead of the rehearsal in question; non-emergency absences may or may not be excused, at the discretion of the instructor.

Semester Grades:

90–100%: A 80–89%: B 70–79%: C 60–69%: D 59% and under: F

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