Requirements

The objective is to learn performance/improvisation technique in small jazz ensembles (combo) settings from trios up to possibly nonet-sized ensembles.

Requirements

Reading and performance of original jazz compositions and arrangements by student composers within and outside the ensemble teach sight-reading techniques, rehearsal techniques and possibly public performances standards.

Application of jazz improvisation techniques and improvisation studies from Music 4321 possibly may be a part of the ensemble.

Evaluation

Through rehearsal technique, style understanding (appropriate application of performance nuance such as swing, accents, dynamic contrast, section balance, etc.), and concert performance the instructor will evaluate each student’s understanding and performance level of the Ensemble Objectives (see above). Upper division students are expected to demonstrate professional rehearsal techniques to the lower division students including the following: (1) assist the instructor in both teaching and demonstrating the various jazz style techniques, (2) teach and demonstrate jazz improvisation techniques, (3) perform section leadership roles including setting and running sectional rehearsals, (4) teach aspects of the various jazz styles through performance and question/answer situations during the rehearsal with the director, and (5) assist the director in tour formulation and management. The evaluation of the above will be by the instructor through question and answer during the rehearsals. Depth of jazz style understanding demonstrated by the student responses is expected to be commensurate with the level of enrollment.

Absence Policy

Attendance is required at rehearsals. Director decides consequence of missed rehearsals.
Catalogue Description

MUSC 4800O Small Ensemble: Jazz Combo 0/1/1
The study and performance of literature composed for small ensembles from traditional, original, transcribed, contemporary, and diverse cultural sources. May include on-campus and sometimes off-campus performances. Open by permission to music-major and non-music-major students.

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