Week 1 & 2…………Introduction and course content survey
[Jan 3-10]  The basics of jazz: improvisation, definition of jazz, swing feeling
Appreciating jazz improvisation: listening techniques, instrument
roles, techniques of improvisation, chord progression, tune
construction  [Chapters 1, 2, 3]

Week 3 & 4…………Origins of jazz [Chapter 4]
[Jan 17-24]
Week 5………………Early Jazz: Combo Jazz prior to the Middle 1930's [Chapter 5]
[Jan 31]
Week 6, 7, 8…………Swing: The Early 1930's to the Late 1940's [Chapter 6, 7, 8]
[Feb 7, 14, 21]
Week 9 & 10………Bop [Chapter 9]
[Feb 28-Mar 7]
Week 11…………….Cool Jazz [Chapter 10]
[Mar 14]
Week 12 & 14……. Hard Bop [Chapter 11], Miles Davis, His Groups and Sideman
[Mar 14-28]  [Chapter 12], John Coltrane [Chapter 13]

- Week 13  Spring Break
[Mar 21]

Week 15…………….The 1960's and '70's Avant-garde and "Free" Jazz [Chapter 14]
[April 4]
Week 16……………..Bill Evans, Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea, and Keith Jarret
[April 11]  [Chapter15];Jazz-rock Fusion [Chapter 16]

Week 17………………Big Bands in the 1960's and '70's
[April 18]
Week 17 & 18…….Current trends and the Sunbelt Jazz Festival [Chapter 17]
[April 24-May 2]  Review

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Absence Policy

There is no absence policy. There should be no class sessions missed, however.

Grading Policy

The final grade will be determined from test scores. Music 4300 students must submit an 8 to 15 page documented research paper and Music 5300 students must submit a 10 to 30 page documented research paper treating an approved topic in jazz. The paper
must be computer generated (typewritten). Topics can include subjects such as aspects of a jazz musician's improvisation style, the composition or arranging style of a jazz composer/arranger, a history of a jazz musician's career, etc. The main purpose of the research paper is to develop the research and writing techniques needed for treating a particular jazz topic. You will present a twenty minute lecture treating the topic of your paper during the Current Trends and the Sunbelt Jazz Festival weeks.

Textbook


Catalogue Description

MUSC 4300: Jazz History and Styles 3/0/3
Prerequisite: Ability to read musical scores.
The history and styles of jazz from its origins to fusion.

Objectives

The objectives of the course are:
1. The contributions of the various musical cultures to the development of jazz,
2. The development of jazz from its origins until the present day including improvisation and the basic principles involved in creating improvisation,
3. The musical aspects and traits of the various jazz styles,
4. About the contributions of various jazz artists and composers to the development of jazz,
5. The styles and performance traits of various jazz artists,
6. How to listen to and recognize played examples of various jazz styles and literature,
7. Writing a research paper over an acceptable jazz topic, and
8. Presenting a lecture over the topic of your research.

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