

Sam Houston State University - School of Music Course Syllabus

Course: ENS 115.01: Jazz Ensemble (1 credit hour)
Semester: Fall semester, 2007
Classroom: Room 205
Meeting Times: TTH: 2 – 3:20 PM

Director: Dr. Trent Hanna
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Office Hours: MW 9-10AM, TTh 1-2PM, and by appointment.

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Golden Circle: Oct. 19, 11:30AM. LSC Ballroom
Alumni Dinner: Oct. 20, 7-9PM. LSC Ballroom
Concert I: Oct. 23, 7:30PM. Killinger Auditorium
Concert II: Nov. 19, 7:30PM. Killinger Auditorium
Other performances likely. Stay loose.

DESCRIPTION:

The Jazz Ensemble is the first of two jazz performance ensembles for the School of Music at Sam Houston State University. JE employs a diverse spectrum of repertoire consisting of the most current contemporary jazz compositions as well as maintains the rich performance tradition of jazz standards written and arranged for the jazz medium.

OBJECTIVES:

- Foster an environment for the study and application of the jazz language in both performance and educational situations.
- Learn and become familiar with the diverse musical styles in the jazz idiom (e.g. swing, funk, Latin, etc.)
- Encourage student compositions/ arrangements in the jazz style.
- Serve as a vehicle for the art of jazz improvisation.

ATTENDANCE/GRADING:

An ensemble is dependent upon the successful participation of all of its members. Consequently, all rehearsals and performances -- whether during the regularly-scheduled class time or not -- **are required**. This includes weekly one-hour sectionals. Unexcused absences will result in a grade penalty and may affect ensemble membership and/or financial assistance.

Any member of an ensemble who misses a dress rehearsal or a performance will receive a failing grade and be removed from the ensemble.

It is expected that all members of the ensemble assist in the set-up and break-down of equipment for performances. Failure to assist in this matter will result in a deduction of points from your final grade.

Eight points will be deducted from the student's numerical grade for each unexcused class or sectional absence. Four points will be deducted from the student's numerical grade for each tardy. (Rev. 9.2.99)

Recognizing that there are legitimate reasons to miss a rehearsal, an absence may be excused for grading purposes by permission of the conductor. All requests for an excused absence will be made **in writing** (email) at the earliest possible moment and, most advantageously, at least two (2) weeks prior to the absence. Emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis. **No work related absences will be excused. It is the student's responsibility to find a substitute and provide music for any absence.**

Failing to notify the conductor about any of the issues discussed regarding absences or tardiness or following procedure could result in the **immediate dismissal from the ensemble**. **NOTE: Notifying the office, a student in the ensemble or a faculty member of an absence does not constitute an excused absence. Direct communication by telephone AND e-mail is expected.**

A "**Listening Journal**" will be kept by each student during the semester. You will be expected to listen to a minimum of **2 hours** of jazz-related music a week and write at least **one page** (double-spaced is fine). Each student will show the professor, **during office hours** (not during class) their journal once a week. Each week missed will result in a deduction of 2 points from your final grade.

SECTIONALS:

It is expected of you to meet with your section once a week for one hour to rehearse music. This time should be set up and given to the instructor the first week of class.

CONCERT DRESS:

- Black dress pants
- Black dress shoes
- Black crew-neck t-shirt

University Policies

University Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials

Proper Classroom Demeanor/Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

According to University policy, requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the SSD office and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided based upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center

Religious Holidays:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable time frame in which the missed assignments and/or examination are to be completed.