

MUJS 4470 and 5430 Syllabus for Spring 2014

Changelog

2014-01-23 Added dates of tests to calendar.

2013-03-06 Changed due date of research stage 3; added due date for revised Stage 2.

Catalog description

MUJS 4470, History of Jazz. Catalog description: Chronological survey of the major styles and artists of jazz, from African acculturation in the New World to the present.

Prerequisite(s): MUJS 1470 with grade of C or higher.

MUJS 5430, Graduate Review of Jazz History. Catalog description: Study of the standard narrative of jazz history and jazz repertoire. Prerequisite(s): None. Meets with MUJS 4470.

Instructor

John Murphy, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Division of Jazz Studies. I don't use "Dr." before my name. Please address me as Professor Murphy, Mister Murphy, John, or Murphy.

For questions that you can ask publicly, as you would in class, please use Blackboard discussion so others can see the answer. For private messages, please use Messages tool in Blackboard, not UNT email. If you must contact me by UNT email, my address is john.murphy@unt.edu. You must use your UNT EagleConnect email for all class-related emails.

Office hours and how to find me: I am at work 8-5 most days. My primary work space is in the Jazz Studies Office, 284. Sometimes I schedule meetings in 266. For quick meetings at times other than the 8 a.m. hour, class meeting times, or the noon hour, you can check in the Jazz Studies office to see if I am available. If you need to make an appointment, send several times you can meet using a Blackboard message and I will reply to confirm the earliest time that fits my schedule.

Who should take this class

MUJS 4470 is crosslisted with MUJS 5430, Graduate Review of Jazz History. Graduate students in MUJS 5430 will attend all class meetings of 4470; do all the graded work for 4470; meet a graduate standard for their research papers; have several additional meetings on a schedule to be determined to discuss extra readings and pedagogical topics; and have the option to make a 20-minute class presentation based on their research papers.

According to the catalog, the prerequisite for undergraduates is MUJS 1470 with grade of C or higher. Jazz studies majors must have earned an A or B in MUJS 1470 before taking this class. I do not enforce the prerequisite for non-majors because music majors with

majors other than jazz studies are often advised to take this class as an upper-division elective.

Students with other majors are welcome, but they should be aware that prior knowledge of music in general and jazz in particular is expected. Students can do well in this class regardless of major if they have regular attendance and good study skills. If you are new to jazz and would like suggestions of short books you can read to learn a lot about jazz in a short time, let me know.

Who shouldn't take this class

Whatever your major, if you are not prepared to attend regularly and keep up with the work, you will find it frustrating and your GPA is likely to be negatively affected.

Required materials

There is no required text to buy. We'll use the UNT library and the web. We'll use the article "Jazz" by Mark Tucker in Oxford Music Online (UNT Music Library electronic resource) as a core text and supplement it with articles, book reviews, and other readings.

Learning goals

1. To understand that the word *jazz* has a history, and that studying the history of jazz involves studying what the word and the music have meant to people over time in various places.
2. To understand the history of jazz in terms of musical style and historical context.
3. To understand the contributions of important jazz artists.
4. To improve your ability to listen aesthetically and analytically to jazz performances.
5. To improve your ability to make and evaluate arguments about jazz history.
6. To understand how jazz relates to other kinds of music, including Western classical and traditional music and various kinds of world music.
7. To understand the contributions of jazz to U.S. and world culture.
8. To be able to find high-quality print and audiovisual information about jazz in the library and on the web, think critically about it, and write a research paper.
9. To understand jazz history from the perspective of historiography. History is the narrative of past events. Historiography is the critical study of how histories are written.

Graded work

The Standard Narrative of Jazz History 60%

Four tests worth 5%, 10%, 20%, and 25%. Tests include short-answer questions, listening questions, and an essay.

Research paper 30%

Test on chs. 1-5 of Lipson, *Doing Honest Work in College*, 2nd ed. 5%

Topic statement 5%

Revised topic statement and list of sources 5%

Rough draft 10%

Final draft 5%

required length: 1,250 words (for 4470) 2,000 words (for 5430). This will be covered in another handout.

Final exam 10%

The final exam is comprehensive.

The grading scale is A=89.5-100; B=79.5-89.4; C=69.5-79.4; D=59.5-69.4; F=59.4 and below. I do not accept extra credit work or extra work to make up for excessive absences. You will take final as scheduled on the UNT final exam schedule: Wednesday, May 7, 2014 from 8-10 a.m.

Calendar

Week 1 The week of Jan. 13. Number the weeks in your academic calendar, not including spring break.

Introduction, listening and discussion, syllabus. Orientation to the library tools we'll be using most. Tucker P1 and 1. Introduction, P2-5. P=paragraph. Make your own document from the Tucker article and number the paragraphs.

Week 2 2. Jazz and the New Orleans background (1895–1916), P6-18.

Week 3 3. Early recorded jazz (1917–23), P19-29. **Research: test on Lipson on Jan. 31.**

Week 4 4. The Jazz Age (1920–30), P30-36. **Research: topic statement on Feb. 7.**

- Week 5 **Test 1 on Tucker 1-4 on Feb. 10.** 5. Swing and big bands (1930–45), P37-48
- Week 6 5. Swing and big bands (1930–45), P37-48, continued, and 6. Small groups and soloists of the swing era, P49-52
- Week 7 7. Traditional and modern jazz in the 1940s, P53-61. **Research: revised topic statement and list of sources on Feb. 28.**
- Week 8 7. Traditional and modern jazz in the 1940s, P53-61, continued. **Test 2 on Tucker 5-7 on Mar. 7.**
- Spring Break
- Week 9 8. Post-bop developments in the 1950s, P62-68. **Research: revised stage 2 due March 17.**
- Week 10 8. Post-bop developments in the 1950s, P62-68, continued. **Research: rough draft on Mar. 21.**
- Week 11 9. Mainstream, third stream and the emerging avant-garde, P69-77
- Week 12 **Test 3 on Tucker 8-9 on Apr. 7.** 10. Free jazz, fusion and beyond (1960–80), P78-89
- Week 13 10. Free jazz, fusion and beyond (1960–80), P78-89, continued. 11. Jazz at the end of the 20th century (1980–99), P90-97. **Research: final draft on Apr. 18.**
- Week 14 11. Jazz at the end of the 20th century (1980–99), P90-97, continued. **Test 4 on Tucker 10-11 on Apr. 25.**
- Week 15 Jazz Since 2000. Review for final Exam. No class on Friday of week 15: Univ. reading day.

Final Exam Wednesday, May 7, 2014 from 8-10 a.m.

Attendance policy

We will follow the UNT attendance policy. Article 7 says this: "Any instructor who so informs students in writing about the necessity of class attendance may request of the Registrar that a student be dropped from the course with a grade of WF upon the accumulation of the stated number of absences." I affirm the necessity of class attendance in order to reach your maximum level of understanding. **The maximum number of unexcused absences allowed is four. Students who have five or more unexcused absences will receive the final grade of WF or F.** Excused absences are limited to 1) university-sponsored activities (things like ensemble tours, recording at Panhandle House with your small group); 2) illness only if it is serious enough to be documented by you to the Dean of Students office and you provide me with the documentation from the Dean of Students office; for ordinary occasional illness, use one of your four allowed unexcused absences; 3) up to four absences for documented professional reasons such as an out-of-town audition, gig, or other professional activity; each absence after the fourth will be counted as an unexcused

absence. If you expect an absence to be marked excused, you must communicate about it either in advance or within 24 hours after the ending time of the missed class.

Expectations

I expect you to:

1. take responsibility for your learning
2. attend every class, arrive on time, and stay the entire time
3. communicate effectively
4. contribute to the discussion, either in class or on Blackboard
5. put in the work time outside of class that is necessary for you to reach your maximum potential
6. understand and follow the syllabus policies, especially the attendance policy
7. be alert and engaged in class (this includes not using your electronic devices for anything except class-related work)
8. let me know if there are any errors in your grade or attendance information grade reports
9. let me know if there something I can do to help you do your best work

You can expect me to:

1. treat every student with respect and the expectation that every student is capable of doing well in this class
2. be prepared for class and demonstrate the scholarly methods we are studying
3. communicate my passion for this subject and for learning in general
4. allow time for questions and discussion in class
5. limit discussion if necessary so that we can get things done
6. begin and end class on time
7. be available outside of class in the office and by email
8. have realistic expectations about the workload
9. be willing to modify what we do in class in order to help you learn better
10. speak with students who are chronically late so that they will stop disrupting the class with late arrivals and showing disrespect to the students who make the effort to arrive on time
11. apply the syllabus policies fairly to all students

Academic Integrity

We will follow UNT's policy on academic integrity

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-

[Academic Integrity.pdf](#)). If I confirm an instance of plagiarism in an assignment for this class, I will file a case with the Office of Academic Integrity, and the final grade of the student who committed plagiarism will be F.

Evaluation

The official UNT evaluation (the SETE) will be done near the end of the class. If you have comments or suggestions for improving the course, please give them to me any time.

Recording Class

You may record class under these conditions: You ask permission in advance. It's for your own use only during the semester. It is never put on the web or shared in any form.

Canceled classes

If UNT classes are canceled because the university has to close due to weather or for some other reason, we will use Blackboard and stay on schedule.

From the registrar

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress - Undergraduates: A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150\% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility. If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress - Graduates: A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility. If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future

financial aid eligibility. Please financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

Disabilities

Students with disabilities that affect their work in this class are invited to speak with me privately. If you expect to have an accommodation made, you must give me the accommodation letter from UNT's Office of Disability Accommodation within the first two weeks of the semester. It must be submitted before any graded work is due.

UNT Ally

I participated in UNT Ally training in Fall 2010 in order to learn more about creating an environment for learning in my classes that is characterized by mutual respect. From the UNT Ally website (<http://ally.unt.edu/>): "Ally Training educates and trains students, staff and faculty to create a safe zone for GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) people at UNT. You don't have to be GLBT/LGBT to go through training. Ally training is for anyone who's interested. The goal is to achieve a culture where any person can study and/or work in an environment free of discrimination and harassment."

This syllabus is subject to change with notice.