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### MUSI 130L.50: History of Jazz

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# MUSI 130L (CRN:73669):

## History of Jazz

Fall 2022

Thomas Sciple

thomas.sciple@umt.edu

### Introduction

Our goal this session is to expose you to the basic knowledge and historical perspective in the art of jazz and its impact on music in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries, nationally and internationally, by using text and listening examples. Our goal is also to have you process the information from text and listening examples and be able to intelligently identify genre, discuss, analyze and critique a Jazz performance. The sub context of this course emphasizes that Jazz is an African- American art form through its major performers and key figures of improvisational and musical development beginning in the Jim Crow era through the Civil-rights era into the present.

This course is designed to be an exciting way to increase your appreciation and enjoyment of jazz. I will be available to help facilitate this process via online tutorials and email. This class will involve listening examples, assignments, five brief projects, forum discussions and 3 quizzes.

This course meets student learning goals from the Gen L perspective by offering diverse perspectives on Jazz through text, listening examples, provided articles and interviews. Thus, gaining new knowledge on the history, developments, evolution, performance practices and continuation of this great American art form. This course will help students acquire the skills to assess information gained and acquire the ability to critically frame and deliver reasoned and persuasive arguments orally and in written form through the project and forum portion of the course.

This course covers the same information that is included in traditional classroom offerings but the responsibility for the success for a course like this rests with you. **\*Please be sure to allow yourself the amount of time in your schedule each week needed in order to be successful.** I have divided the chapters in a weekly schedule consisting of the beginning of the week and end of the week so that you may adapt to your own schedule.

You will be responsible for reading assignments from **Introduction to Jazz 6th edition**(Written by Megill/Demory and published by Prentice Hall). This can be purchase online from a number of sources or the UM Bookstore. Your first quiz on material from this book will be soon so please obtain a copy of this book if you have not already.

## **REQUIRED TEXT:**

Book- Introduction to Jazz

Authors - Megill/Demory

Publisher - Prentice Hall 6th edition or later

\*In addition, the listening activities are an important and integral part of this course, and I will be asking you to comment on the recordings mentioned in the book and the linked YouTube recordings that are posted that may not be discussed in the book but are relevant to chapters studied. **ALL** recordings that you are responsible to listen will be posted on the Moodle pages.

## **QUIZZES:**

You will have three (3) quizzes from the material in the textbook in chapter increments of approximately 10 per quiz.

**Office Hours:** If you need to get in touch with me, please set up an appointment by emailing me at [thomas.sciple@umt.edu](mailto:thomas.sciple@umt.edu) . If need be, you may contact me on me by calling 504.952.1506. Please use the phone number as a last resort!

**Academic Honesty:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University of Montana. All Students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [www.umt.edu/SA/VPASA/Index.cfm/page/1321](http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPASA/Index.cfm/page/1321).

## **GRADING**

**10% - Biography (Due Wednesday, August 31st)**

**10% - Project 1 – ‘Jazz Greats’ overview (September 16th)**

**10% - QUIZ 1 - Chapters 1-10 (September 30th)**

**10% - Project 2 – Article Review (October 14th)**

**10% - Project 3 – CD Review (October 21st)**

**10% - QUIZ 2 - Chapters 11-19 (October 28th)**

**10% - Project 4 - Interview Assignment (November 18th)**

**10% - Project 5 – Jazz Radio Show ( December 2nd)**

**10% - QUIZ 3 - Chapters 20-29 (December 9th)**

**\*\*\*10% - Forum participation / \* comments on listening examples submitted in the forums**

**\*\*\*Forum participation - Students will be required to comment on at least 15 listening examples throughout the semester. Students may participate by commenting within an existing discussion or by starting their own thread and discussion.**

## **PROJECTS & ASSIGNMENTS (check due dates):**

### **JAZZ GREATS LIST**

Art Tatum	Mary Lou Williams
Louis Armstrong	Joe King Oliver
Lester Young	Johnny Hodges
Miles Davis	J.J. Johnson
John Coltrane	Thelonious Monk
Art Blakey	Horace Silver
Herbie Hancock	Sonny Rollins
Duke Ellington	Count Basie
Art Blakey	Charlie Parker
Ella Fitzgerald	Sarah Vaughan
Frank Sinatra	Joe Williams
McCoy Tyner	Clifford Brown
Mel Lewis	Oscar Peterson
Dexter Gordon	Billy Strayhorn
Wynton Marsalis	Ray Brown
Jimmy Blanton	Jimmy Heath
Thad Jones	Philly Jo Jones
Elvin Jones	Cannonball Adderley

### #1 JAZZ GREAT PROJECT GUIDELINES due September 16th 2022

Your Jazz Greats Profile should be picked from the list above and be between 300-500 words and should include the following information:

- A. Biographical information (birthplace, death, family, spouse, etc.)
- B. Geographical information
- C. An abbreviated discography containing important recordings
- D. Important performances/recordings which helped
- E. Important figures/mentors in their life
- F. Interesting information (jail time, nicknames, etc.)

**\*Please spell check and proof read. Points will be marked off for misspelled words and run-on sentences**

### #2 JAZZ ARTICLE REVIEW GUIDELINES due October 14th 2022

Your review of an article should be approximately 250 words and should contain information you have gleaned along with your opinions and impressions of the artist/group discussed. Please be sure to show a link to the article that you are writing about. \* I'm looking for **your** thoughts and **your** opinions and not a recap of the article.

Downbeat and Jazz Times are two great sources for information about jazz. Please go to the *Downbeat* site (<http://www.downbeat.com>) and the *Jazz Times* site (<http://jazztimes.com>) to view some of the articles and highlights from these magazines.

**\*Please spell check and proof read. Points will be marked off for misspelled words and run-on sentences**

### #3 RECORDING PROJECT GUIDELINES due October 21st 2022

You will be required to review a recording acquired either via record store or through iTunes/Spotify, Youtube etc... Each review should be approximately 300-500 words with a mixture of fact (instrumentation, track names, recording specifics) and your opinion (why you liked/disliked certain tracks). Do your best to describe tempos (fast, slow, etc.) and styles (swing, bossa nova, funk etc.) that you have learned thus far from the listening examples we discuss. \*Again do not forget to include **your** thoughts, **your** opinions and **your** critique.

**\*Please spell check and proof read. Points will be marked off for misspelled words and run-on sentences**

#### **#4 JAZZ INTERVIEW PROJECT due November 18th 2022**

Please choose one of the interviews from the three provided on Moodle and write your thoughts on the artist, answers and interview questions. This project should be between 300-500 words. \* I'm looking for **your** thoughts and impressions not a recap of the interview.

**\*Please spell check and proof read. Points will be marked off for misspelled words and run-on sentences**

#### **#5 JAZZ RADIO SHOW GUIDELINES due December 2nd 2022**

You will be required to make a playlist and upload the track names and a brief description of each piece equaling a forty-five minute jazz radio show with you acting as the “disc jockey” featuring the music of a specific artist or theme. The show must contain at least six (6) tracks of music ALL from DIFFERENT recordings/CD's plus information about the artist, the musicians, recording dates and information and your thoughts on the piece, information about the style/groove of the pieces along with information on the form of the pieces including introductions, solo order, ending, etc. reflecting what you have learned about musical form and performance practice for a jazz performance. Please write the track name and then **your** description of the piece.

**\*Please spell check and proof read. Points will be marked off for misspelled words and run-on sentences**

## **CHAPTERS, ASSIGNMENTS, PROJECTS AND DATES**

### **SECTION I – Chapters 1-10 August 29th- September 30th 2022**

#### **Week 1 (August 29th- September 2nd):**

Chapter 1-Roots of Jazz w/ listening

**\*BIOGRAPHY Due (Wednesday August 31st)**

Chapter 2- Leadbelly w/listening

#### **Week 2 (September 6th- 9th):**

Chapter 3- Robert Johnson w/listening

Chapter 4- Bessie Smith w/listening

**Week 3 (September 12th-16th):**

Chapter 5- Blues Continues w/listening

Chapter 6 - Ragtime w/listening (Scott Joplin)

**\*Project I (Jazz Greats Project) Due (September 16th)**

**Week 4 (29th-23rd):**

Chapter 7 - Stride w/listening (James P. Johnson, Fats Waller)

Chapter 8- Boogie Woogie w/listening (Meade "Lux" Lewis)

**Week 5 (26th-30th):**

Chapter 9 - Piano Styles in Transition w/listening (Art Tatum, Earl Hines)

Chapter 10 – New Orleans w/listening (Louis Armstrong, King Oliver)

**\*QUIZ I (Chapters 1-10) Friday September 30th**

**SECTION II Chapter 11-19 October 3rd- October 28th 2022**

**Week 6 (October 3rd-7th):**

Chapter 11- To Chicago w/listening(Kid Ory, Louis Armstrong, Bix Beiderbecke)

Chapter 12- Jelly Roll w/listening (Jelly Roll Morton)

**Week 7 (October10th-14th):**

Chapter 13- Dixieland Soloists w/listening

Chapter 14- Swing w/listening

**\*PROJECT II (ARTICLE REVIEW) DUE (October 14th 2022)**

**Week 8 October 17th-21st):**

Chapter 15- Duke Ellington w/listening

Chapter 16- Count Basie w/listening

Chapter 17- The New Swing w/listening

**\*PROJECT III (CD REVIEW) DUE (October 21st 2022)**

**Week 9 (18th-22nd)**

Chapter 18- Bebop Revolution w/listening

Chapter 19- Bebop Piano, Monk and Bud Powell

**\* QUIZ II - Chapters 11-19 Friday, October 28th 2022**

**SECTION III Chapters 20-29 October 25th - December 10th**

**Week 10 (October 31st- November 4th)**

Chapters 20 – Hard Bop w/listening

Chapters 21- BeBop w/listening

**Week 11 (7th-11th)**

Chapters 22 -Miles Davis and Bill Evans w/listening

Chapters 23 - Charles Mingus and MJQ w/listening

**Week 12 (14th-18th)**

Chapter 24 - Big Bands Continued w/listening

Chapter 25- Free Jazz, Ornette Coleman w/listening

**\*Project IV (JAZZ INTERVIEW) DUE (November-18th-2022)**

**Week 13 (22nd-26th)**

Chapter 26- John Coltrane w/listening

Chapter 27- More Free Jazz w/listening



**Week 14 (November 28th-2nd)**

Chapter 28 - Fusion w/listening

**\*Project V (JAZZ DISC JOCKEY) DUE (December-2nd -2022)**

**Week 15 (December 6th - 10th)**

Chapter 29 - More Fusion w/listening

**\*Quiz III – Chapters 20-29 Friday, December 9th 2022**

**\* There will be no cumulative Final Exam**