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MUSI 162A.05: UM Jazz Combo

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University of Montana
School of Visual and Performing Arts
School of Music
Spring 2013
UM Jazz Combo
(By audition only)
MUSI 162A.05 and MUSI 362A.03
Credits: 1

Instructor: Johan Eriksson
Office: 201
Email: johan.eriksson@umontana.edu
Office hours: By appointment
Rehearsal time: TBD

Course Description:

UM Combos are small jazz ensembles.

Course Objectives:

- To develop our concept of small ensemble playing.
- To study the major composers/arrangers for the jazz idiom and the stylistic features of each.
- To develop our listening skills, sight-reading and rhythm.
- To learn tunes from the standard repertoire.
- To develop our interpretation of various jazz styles.
- To provide a laboratory environment for playing our own arrangements and compositions.
- To develop our improvisational skills.

Required Materials:

- A good quality metronome
- A pencil with an eraser
- A rehearsal notebook
- Instruments/doubles/mutes/ etc
- Suggested recordings

Course Requirements:

1. Every member of each combo is required to be at all rehearsals and performances. In the case of an emergency or illness, students must arrange for a substitute for the affected rehearsal. It is the responsibility of the student to get the music to the sub prior to rehearsal. The student must inform the instructor prior to the rehearsal.
2. Combo members will bring all music, instruments and needed equipment to all rehearsals and performances.
3. Each unexcused absence of a rehearsal may result in a letter drop of your semester grade. If, due to an emergency, you must miss a rehearsal, please email the instructor as soon as possible. If no email/message is received, the absence will be unexcused and the student's grade will be lowered.
4. Be on time for rehearsal. If you are late more than two times, your semester grade may be dropped by one letter.
5. Students are responsible for all music in the book. Be prepared to play any piece at any time.

6. Practice your music outside or rehearsal with a metronome.
7. Students must study the recordings provided or mentioned in class.
8. Have a pencil at every rehearsal.
9. Keep up with your music and keep it in good shape. Any lost music will be paid for by the student and if a chart is out-of-print, the student is responsible for creating a new part from the score (via Finale or Sibelius).
10. Students are encouraged to bring in arrangements for the group. These can be arrangements or original compositions. Students are encouraged to transcribe arrangements of classic small ensembles (Blakey, Clifford Brown, Horace Silver, etc).
11. *A missed performance results in a failing grade.* Do not be late or miss a performance.
12. Each student must perform at least once during the semester. Failure to do so will result in semester grade being lowered by one letter.
13. Each student must attend the entire night his or her group is performing on the combo concert.
14. Each combo is encouraged to perform outside of campus as much as possible.

Performances: Performance time/place TBA

Grading:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Attendance at performances and rehearsals | 50% |
| Daily class preparation | 25% |
| Memorization of music | 25% |

"Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>."

"Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

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. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php."