

MUC 6625 JAZZ COMPOSITION AND ARRANGING

(offered Spring)

Spring 2023

Course Meeting Time and Location: TBA. Student schedules will be collected to find the best time for the class to meet.

Credit Hours: 3 credits

Instructors: Clyde Connor – email: cjconnor1@ufl.edu

Jazz Office Location: School of Music: Room 354

Office Hours: TBA and upon request.

Jazz Director Information: Scott Wilson swilson@arts.ufl.edu / **Office phone:** 435-851-6363

Course Description

Jazz Composition and Arranging provides graduate instruction in jazz composition and arranging and advanced techniques for commercial song writing. Students will study chord movement, melodic development and composition techniques for various styles of music. Students will complete original compositions and arrangements, contra-facts, sax solis, big band chart and know the basics of string writing. A passing grade of B or better in this course is required for the Masters Degree.

Portfolio requirement: Student will complete a large group recording project.

Course Objectives/Goals

This course is vital to ensure that our jazz graduates have the opportunity to learn jazz composition and arranging skills that will enable them to be competitive in the commercial music industry. This course covers the writing styles of jazz, smooth jazz, rock, pop, latin, salsa, and dixieland. The instruction received in Jazz Composition and Arranging will contribute to the financial success and diversity for students who complete this course.

Representative Text and/or Materials: *Jazz Arranging Techniques* by Gary Lindsay.

The book is also available at the following location (\$39.95)

http://www.lindsayjazz.com/publications/books/inside_jat.html

Required materials include:

- Computer notation software.
- A recording device (or access to a computer-based recording program)
- Required Text

Required Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend a two hour class each week. Any unexcused absences will lower the final grade automatically 1/2 a letter grade, i.e. ...1 unexcused = A to A-, 2 unexcused = A- to B, etc. If a student is officially excused for an absence the student is in good standing.

EVALUATIONS AND GRADES

| Assignments | Points | Score |
|---|-------------------|-------|
| <p>Project One: Voicing Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review instrument transpositions. • Woodwind, Brass & Rhythm writing assignment demonstrating an understanding of correct voicing techniques. • All assignments will be submitted using computer notation software with an MP3 playback file. | 400 points | |
| <p>Project Two: Large Group Arrangement (Short)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write an arrangement for large jazz ensemble. (Pre-existing tunes only*) • Intro, head and short ending. • Melody must move in an idiomatic manner and breathe properly. • Score for 8 brass, 5 saxes, 4 rhythm. • Scores (transposed). • Manuscript: individual parts must follow formats and standards. • No ballads, 3/4 or 5/4 tunes; write for a tempo not to exceed q =180. | 400 points | |
| <p>Project Three: Expand Project I into a full chart for large jazz ensemble.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score for the same ensemble as Project I (External form: ABA) <p>A: Intro, head, ending with climax then with transition to next part. B: Middle section: develop materials found in "A", and end with the full band scored to climax. There should be an extension to the form at this point.</p> <p>B section can consist of one or more of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solo with backgrounds (bkgds 2Xo for opt. repeat, bkgds building to climax) 2. Soli (1/2 chorus saxes or trombones, followed or preceded by solo or tutti) 3. Tutti section (1/2 chorus, preceded by solo or soli). 4. Recapitulation. Use a D.S. and Coda if possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final ending can be up or down, according to the musical needs of the arrangement. • Try to schedule your writing to get more than one playing, with time for reflection and subtle adjustments between the each playing. | 800 points | |
| Quizzes – 6 Quizzes Total | 200 points | |
| Listening Quizzes – 4 Quizzes Total | 200 points | |
| 2000 Points Total | Your Score | = |

**Originals are possible but must be approved by the instructor before any work begins.*

GRADING SCALE AND CALCULATING YOUR GRADE

| 2000 Point Scale for Final Grade Calculation |
|---|
| 2000 – 1840 A |
| 1839 – 1800 A- |
| 1799 – 1700 B+ |
| 1699 – 1640 B |
| 1639 – 1600 B- |
| 1599 – 1500 C+ |
| 1499 – 1440 C |
| 1439 – 1400 C- |
| 1399 – 1300 D+ |
| 1299 – 1240 D |
| 1239 – 1200 D- |
| 1199 and below E |

Resource: UF Grading Policy Website:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Students with disabilities

“Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

Academic Honesty

At the University of Florida every student signed the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University.” The instructor of this course fully endorses this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing is subject to an automatic E and further disciplinary action. All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception.

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

**If you are repeating this course at UF, please be aware that turning in any part of any written assignment that you submitted for this course in the past also constitutes academic misconduct. See “Scope and Violations” under the Honor Code above.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>.

Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct

It is the policy of the University of Florida to provide an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. This includes information sent through e-mail. Sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in any form will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The University encourages students, faculty,

staff, and visitors to promptly report sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. For more specific information, please see www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/affact/harass (Located in the General Information section of the University Catalog.)

CAMPUS RESOURCES:

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the

University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161. University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

ACADEMIC RESOURCES:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

“Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.”
