MUC 6625 JAZZ COMPOSITION AND ARRANGING

(offered Spring)

Spring 2024

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 Master 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:
Inside the Score (Author: Rayburn Wright) ($50)
ISBN: 9991739661
Ray Wright has thoroughly analyzed eight classic charts from the pens of Thad Jones, Sammy Nestico and Bob Brookmeyer. The complete full score for each part is presented and the following elements are isolated and discussed: voicings, orchestration, textures, melodic construction, climaxes, chords, etc. The benefit of this book is that you can actually SEE real charts, and then listen to the CD to learn how the written notes translate into REAL music.

Required materials include:
• Materials and Score Paper for projects.
• 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.

Jazz Composition and Arranging Grade Sheet
NAME: _____
ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING SYSTEM

In Class Assessments and Homework	Points	Score
3 Quizzes (100 points each)	**300**	
Create 3 Jazz Arranging Worksheets/Assignments (100 points each)	**300**	
Composition Projects	**Points**	**Score**
Project One: Small Group Arrangement of jazz standard * Write an arrangement for a small group (must have two horns) * Must have an original intro * Must have harmony between the 2 horns where appropriate * Must have change bass chords and colorful substitutions * Write for a tempo not to exceed qtr = 180.	**200**	
Project Two: Small Group Arrangement of Original Tune * Write an original tune for small group (must have two horns) * Must have an creative intro and outro * Must have harmony between the 2 horns where appropriate * Must have elements of cyclic movement as outlined in the Wilson Matrix * Write for a tempo not to exceed qtr = 180.	**200**	
Project Three: Large Group Arrangement Of Jazz Standard (10 piece) 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. • Changes must reflect the use of add-chord where this device is appropriate. • Score for 8 brass, 5 sxs, 4 rhythm. • Scores (transposed). • Manuscript: individual parts must follow formats and standards. • No ballads * Write for a tempo not to exceed qtr = 180.	**400 points**	
Project Four: Write an Original Big Band Composition • Score for the same ensemble as Project I (External form: ABA) 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.	**600 points**	

B section can consist of one or more of the following: 1. Solo with bkgds (bgs 2Xo for opt. repeat, bkdgs building to climax) 2. Soli (1/2 chorus saxes or tbns, followed or preceded by solo or tutte) 3. Tutte section (1/2 chorus, preceded by solo or soli). 4. Recapitulation. Use a D.S. and Coda if possible. • The final ending can be up or down, according to the musical needs of the arrangement. • Schedule your writing to get more than one playing, with time for reflection and subtle adjustments between the playings.		
2000 Points Total	**Your Score**	**=**

GRADING SCALE AND CACULATING 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

ATTENDANCE

Prompt and regular attendance is required at all class meetings. Any class conflicts must be cleared with the director a minimum of one week in advance unless it is an emergency. The determination of unexcused absence will be made at the discretion of the director.

Attendance Policy
All class meetings are required. 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. All excused absences will require the proper written documentation that the student has been excused from school during the time in question. Without this approval we cannot excuse an absence. This includes all requests for permission to grant an excused absence for personal issues involving family, work, deaths, hardships, marriages, pregnancies, illnesses, financial problems, other exams, etc.

Tardy
A tardy is defined as not being in class when class begins. Members who arrive late to "3 classes" will have their grade lowered ½ letter grade.

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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 and Health and Wellness
U Matter, We Care: **If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.**

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111
(or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111
or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road,
Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at
helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and
counseling services.

Library Support: **Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding
resources.**

Teaching Center: **Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420.
General study skills and tutoring.**

Writing Studio: **2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and
writing papers.**

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code
webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process

INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course
by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional
and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the
evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals in their
Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation
results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.