Objectives & Policies

You must be registered for the course in order to participate in the ensemble. This ensemble will focus on rehearsing and performing important works in the large jazz ensemble genre. You are expected to be at every rehearsal and every performance. Failure to do so will not only affect your grade in the course, but will also let down your fellow bandmates. Other courses may present a conflict with the rehearsal time. These situations need to be brought to my attention immediately. Department of Music sanctioned events are legitimate excuses for missing rehearsals, not performances, and the legitimacy of the excuse will ultimately be assessed by me. Concerts in the Martha Ellen-Tye recital hall are October 9 @ 7:30 and November 20 @ 7:30. Invite your friends and family to attend our performances. Live webcasting is available through the Department of Music for each concert we play in the MET Recital Hall. You are expected to have the “nuts and bolts” of each piece mastered while developing the appropriate style and interpretation throughout the process. Improvised solo opportunities will be given to those members that work on the changes, play passionately, and attempt to inspire fellow bandmates. Sectionals may be called on occasion and section leaders will lead those rehearsals. You are responsible for your folder & music. Your instrument must be in working order for every rehearsal. You are highly encouraged to have equipment that will lend your playing to an authentic jazz sound (mouthpieces, mutes, effects, etc.) Drums and amplifiers are available in the jazz cage. Everyone is responsible for his or her own folder, chair, and stand. Bring a pencil and use it. Wear concert black to each performance. Work hard and have fun playing this music.

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please request that a Student Disability Resource staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodation you will need.

Grading Criteria

Grading considerations include attendance, perceived effort, preparation, and attitude. I will excuse your absence if you provide justification to me (face to face or via phone) before the rehearsal begins. I will not accept an emailed excuse, but would appreciate the reminder. Each unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in your grade being lowered a full letter grade. Unexcused absences from a performance may result in a severe drop in your grade. Doctor’s notes, athletic band performances, and exams in other classes are often excused absences. Working a shift at your job or attending athletic events or Greek socials are not.

The Practice Room is for learning your part.
The Rehearsal Time is for learning everyone else’s part.