

Jazz Ensembles

Spring 2021 Mike Giles #255

Objectives & Policies

You must be registered for the course MUS113 (section 1 or section 2) or MUS321 (section J), as assigned, in order to participate. This ensemble will focus on rehearsing and performing works by reputable artists within a specific genre. Work hard and have fun playing this music. You will have two rehearsals per week, and each rehearsal will only last 30 minutes (not including setup & tear down). In an effort to provide a safe & healthy environment, you are required to wear face masks, use issued bell covers, supply your own music stands, and social distance between bandmates. 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 our rehearsal time and scheduled performances. These situations need to be brought to my attention immediately. Iowa State University sanctioned events may be legitimate excuses for missing rehearsals and/or performances, but their legitimacy will be assessed by Mr. Giles.

Attendance and participation in all performances listed is required. We will present one concert in Martha Ellen Tye Recital Hall, which will double as a recording session. We will then edit and produce the recorded materials, both audio and video, with ISU Sound Engineer Chad Jacobsen during your assigned rehearsal time. The final product will be aired via the ISU webcast at a later date. The performance/recording sessions for all ensembles are scheduled as follows:

the Miles Davis band :: **Sunday April 11th @ 1:30** (setup @ 12:30)
the Oliver Nelson band :: **Wednesday April 14th @ 6:00** (setup @ 5:30)
the Miguel Zenon band :: **Wednesday April 14th @ 8:00** (setup @ 7:30)

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 and section leaders will lead those rehearsals. These can be held in reserved rooms 254, 256, and 002.

You are responsible for your folder, music, and personal music stand. 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. Bring a pencil and use it. With regards to concert attire; gentlemen are required to wear a black suit and tie, ladies are required to wear concert black. Office hours are available by appointment and should be scheduled in advance. Reference recordings and performance media will be posted on our CyBox account, to which you will be invited. See me for guidance regarding approaches to improvising, playing certain styles, etc.

Disability Considerations

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. This information is confidential.

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 your anticipated absence. I will not accept an emailed excuse. Each unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in your grade being lowered a full letter grade, and 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, honoring greek life commitments or attending extracurricular activities are not considered excusable absences. If you are still unsure, contact me directly for clarification.

Learning Outcomes

The student will demonstrate the ability to perform a variety of music with attention to several musical factors, including style, articulation, dynamics, blend and balance, intonation, rhythm, and phrasing. The student will acquire knowledge of the repertoire to be performed, including a historical and cultural context. The student will demonstrate the ability to successfully contribute in a cooperative learning environment.

Media Release

As a member of a Department of Music ensemble, we assume that you waive the right for your image and related audio for use in advertising/marketing for Iowa State University. If this is not acceptable, you must notify your course instructor and the department chair, in writing, by the 10th day of the semester.

Accessibility Statement

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building

Covid-19 Requirements

Students are responsible for abiding by the university's COVID-19 health and safety expectations. Go to: <https://www.dso.iastate.edu/guidance-for-supporting-community-expectations-during-covid-19-pandemic>

All students attending this class in-person are required to: 1) properly wear a face covering and/or face shield, covering the nose and mouth, while in classrooms, laboratories, studios, offices, and other learning spaces. It is important to remember that a face covering and/or face shield is required to be worn whenever you are on campus, in the presence of others, and unable to maintain physical distance; 2) practice physical distancing to the extent possible; 3) assist in maintaining a clean and sanitary environment; 4) not attend class if you are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19; 5) not attend class if you have been told to self-isolate or quarantine by a health official.

Follow the faculty member's guidance with respect to these requirements. Failure to comply constitutes disruptive classroom conduct. Faculty and teaching assistants have the authority to deny a non-compliant student entry into a classroom, laboratory, studio, conference room, office, or other learning space.

The First Amendment

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of freedom of speech and the principle of academic freedom, in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech, as long as student expression in a class context is both germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.

The Practice Room is for learning your part.

The Rehearsal Time is for learning everyone else's part.