**MUS 2117 Foundations of Jazz Music**

***Description:***

The course examines jazz origins, its early developments, and instrumentation. In addition, early composers of jazz, their works, and recordings, are studied and analyzed. Special attention is given to listening techniques, and defining (the four views of jazz) what jazz is; improvisation, swing feeling, blues, ragtime, and dance music. It will examinethe historical and socio-economic factors in the development of jazz. The course includes a stylistic analysis of jazz and its musical elements as a basis for acquiring compositional techniques in jazz music

***Objectives:***

1. To introduce jazz music and its history, style, form and different sub-genres
2. To acquaint students with the terminologies used in reference to jazz music
3. To develop an appreciation for jazz music

*Course Outlines*

Topic 1: Introduction

* What is Jazz?
* Nature of Jazz Music and Its Sources: African Origins, Ragtime and the Blues
* Elements of Music and the Jazz Style

Topic 2: New Orleans Style, Ragtime and the Blues

* ODJB, Bechet, King Oliver, Jelly Roll Morton, Bessie

Smith, Louis Armstrong and Bix Beiderbecke

Topic 3: The Swing Style and the Swing Era

* Fletcher Henderson and Don Redman
* Duke Ellington
* Fats Waller, Earl Hines, and the Stride Piano
* Coleman Hawkins, Count Basie, and Lester Young
* Benny Goodman and Charlie Christian
* Miscellaneous Big Bands of the Swing Period

Topic 4: The Bebop Revolution, the Bop Style and the Beginning of Modern

Jazz:

* The Early Days: Charlie Christian, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie
* Charlie Parker: The Greatest of the Behop Innovators
* Important Modern Pianist: Art Tatum, Thelonious Monk, Bud Powell, George Shearing, Errol Garner, and Oscar Peterson
* Dizzy Gillespie and Other Modern Trumpeters (Miles Davis, Fats Navarro, Clifford Brown and Freddie Hubbard

Topic 5: Important Jazz players of the 50-60's

* Sonny Rollins and John Coltrane
* The Two Principal Tenor Saxophone Soloists of the 1950-60s
* Charles Mingus and Bill Evans: Two Lonely Introverts—the Nature of their contributions to jazz

Topic 6: Bossa Nova and Free Jazz Style

* Cecil Taylor, Ornette Coleman, Archie Shepp, Albert Ayler, Sun Ra, Roland Kirk, Anthony Braxton and Keith Jarrett
* The Art Ensemble of Chicago: The Aesthetics of Free Jazz

Topic 7: Fusion (Jazz/Rock/Soul/Pop): Jazz and the New Technology

* Fusion (Jazz/Rock/Soul/Pop): Miles Davis, Mahavishnu
* The Crusaders, Herbie Hancock, Flora Purim and Airto, Chick Corea, George Benson, Chuck Mangione

Topic 8: The Contemporary Jazz Scene

* Some questions concerning the taste, aesthetic value, and the quality of American culture

*Learning Outcomes*

1. Demonstration of the knowledge of jazz history, style form, and terminology
2. Demonstration of the appreciation of jazz music
3. Ability to identify the different genres of jazz music and the outstanding musicians
4. Ability to analyze the main elements of jazz music

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Lectures, class discussions, listening to audio recordings, and watching videos

*Modes of Assessment*

Course Work:

* Attendance and Participation in class Discussions: 5%
* Mid-semester test: 20%
* Listening Assignments: 15%

Final Examination

Written: 60%

*Selected Readings*

Berliner, Paul. 1994. *Thinking in Jazz: The Infinite Art of Improvisation (Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology Series).* Chicago: Chicago University Press.

# Coker, Jerry. 1991. *Elements of the Jazz Language for the Developing Improvisor*. Maimi, FL: CPP/Belwin.

# Fewll, Garrison. 2005. *Jazz Improvisation for Guitar: A Melodic Approach.* Boston: Berklee Press

# Haerle, Dan. 1982. *The Jazz Language: A Theory Text for Jazz Composition and Improvisation.* New York: Alfred Publishing.