

Music 9 (History of Jazz) Syllabus

Instructor: Fred Haas

Office: Room 32 (Hopkins Center)

Messages: Blitzmail

Class times: 10A (Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM – 11:50 AM) in Faulkner Recital Hall (Hopkins Center) and the x-hour (Wed 3:00 PM – 4:05 PM) – We will be using some of our X-hours for exam review and extra listening sessions (they will be announced during class the previous week).

Course Description:

This class will examine jazz from its origins to the present. Special attention will be given to pivotal figures in the history of jazz such as Louis Armstrong, Bix Beiderbecke, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Ornette Coleman. Class time will be spent listening to, analyzing, and discussing a wide variety of recorded jazz performances and watching jazz films. We will also have a number of visiting artists perform in class and lecture on relevant topics.

Outside of class you will be attending live jazz performances, listening to recordings and reading about the artists that brought this music to life. My goal is to help you increase your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of this great American art form called Jazz.

After an introductory period during which we will focus on the basic elements of music and how to listen to jazz, we will consider representative instrumental and vocal recordings from the past one hundred years.

Textbook: Jazz The First 100 Years – Second Edition (Henry Martin and Keith Waters). The book comes with a CD and an additional 2 CD set of recordings (3 CDs in total).

Attendance:

You are responsible for all material presented in class, including announcements about course procedures. Exams, quizzes, and homework often include questions on material presented only in class. You will be frequently asked to complete and turn in short assignments during class. No make-ups will be granted for this material. With the exception of students affected by medical or family emergency, there will be no administering of make-up quizzes and no granting of extensions on assignments to be handed in. I may send you additional assignments or clarifications about material presented in class via Blitzmail – check your email daily.

Evaluation:

Examinations: There will be two exams (a mid-term exam and a final exam). Exam dates will be announced in class. These exams will cover material from the reading assignments, listening assignments, films, concert performances, guest lecturers, as well as material presented in class.

Quizzes:

There will be several quizzes throughout the term, primarily on material presented in class (including listening, lecture material, and jazz films). Some of these quizzes may be unannounced.

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A: 90%100%

B: 80%89.99%

C: 70%79.99%

D: 60%69.99%

E: below 60%

In accordance with Dartmouth's Honor Principle, it is expected that each of you will do your own work, both in and out of class.

I encourage students with disabilities, including invisible disabilities like chronic diseases, learning disabilities, and psychiatric disabilities, to discuss with me accommodations that might be helpful to them. Please see me regarding any of these issues before the end of the second week of classes.

You are expected to have completed the reading and listening assignments for each week before our class on Tuesday. As you read the text, listen to the CDs that accompany the text as well as the additional suggested recordings from the Music 9 Blackboard site (which includes the Smithsonian Collections, The Ken Burns series, etc). Biographical jazz films as well as concert performances are also available on Dartmouth's pushkin1 server and can be viewed on any campus computer).

On the www.wadsworth.com website, there are flashcards, listening and content quizzes as well as links to other jazz-related websites. These resources will help prepare you for the in-class quizzes and tests that will be administered throughout the term. There is software to download that will help you follow along with the CDs that accompany your text as well. Please make use of these additional resources.

Week 1

Our first class will consist of an overview of the term and an explanation of the syllabus, text, recordings, www.wadsworth.com (student resources) and the

Blackboard site for this class. We will also delve into the basics of music and how to listen.

Reading: Chapter 1 (Roots) & Chapter 2 (Early Jazz) and Appendix: Jazz Basics (pp 392 – 398). You should also take a look at the Glossary (pp 405 – 413) and begin to familiarize yourself with these terms.

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 2

Reading: Chapter 1 (Roots), Chapter 2 (Early Jazz) and Chapter 3 (Morton, Armstrong, and Beiderbecke).

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 3

Reading: Chapter 3 (Morton, Armstrong, and Beiderbecke) and Chapter 4 (1920s Jazz In New York and Europe)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 4

Reading: Chapter 5 (The Swing Era) and Chapter 6 (Swing-era Bands and Stylists)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 5

Reading: Chapter 7 (The Bebop Era)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 6

Reading: Chapter 8 (The 1950s and New Jazz Substyles)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 7

Reading: Chapter 9 (The 1960s Avant-Garde)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 8

Reading: Chapter 10 (Mainstream Jazz in the 1960s)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 9

Reading: Chapter 11 (Jazz-Rock, Jazz-Funk Fusion)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 10

Reading: chapter 12 (Jazz Since the 1980s)

Listening: All tracks on your CDs that are referred to in the text. Additional related material is available on the Blackboard site.

Week 11

Review for final exam

Last day of classes is Wednesday, November 30 at 5:20 p.m.

FINAL EXAM – December 5 (3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)