

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for MUS 17A

JAZZ COMBO 1

Effective: Fall 2016

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 17A — JAZZ COMBO 1 — 1.00 units

For instrumentalists who want experience in performing and interpreting small-group literature. The music literature will cover important aspects of Jazz band development and works of all styles and periods. Emphasis will be on articulations, stylistic differences, composition, arranging, and common performance practices of the various periods of music. Enrollment by audition only.

1.00 Units Lab

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

Family: Music Jazz Combo

	<u>MIN</u>
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. demonstrate advanced facility and technique in performing, composing, and arranging jazz literature
- B. demonstrate an awareness of individual responsibility to the success of ensemble performance
- C. demonstrate the ability to play, memorize, and interpret jazz literature in the following styles: Swing, Bossa, Fusion, Funk, Waltz, and Modern.
- D. compile effective setlists, and perform as a cohesive unit.

V. CONTENT:

Course Content first enrollment:

- A. Facility and technique in performing jazz literature
- B. Play jazz literature in a Moderate Bossa style
- C. Play jazz literature in a Medium Rock style
- D. Play jazz literature in an Easy New Orleans style
- E. Awareness of individual responsibility to the success of ensemble performance

Course Content second enrollment:

- A. Facility and technique in performing jazz literature;
- B. Play jazz literature in a Fast Bossa Nova style;
- C. Play jazz literature in a Medium Rock style;
- D. Play jazz literature in a Fast New Orleans style;
- E. Awareness of individual responsibility to the success of ensemble performance.

Course Content third enrollment:

- A. demonstrate advanced facility and technique in performing jazz literature;
- B. demonstrate the ability to play jazz literature in a Samba style;
- C. demonstrate the ability to play jazz literature in a Medium Swing style;
- D. demonstrate an awareness of individual responsibility to the success of ensemble performance.

Course Content fourth enrollment:

- A. demonstrate advanced facility and technique in performing jazz literature;
- B. demonstrate the ability to play jazz literature in a Fast Samba style;
- C. demonstrate the ability to play jazz literature in a Fast Rock style;
- D. demonstrate an awareness of individual responsibility to the success of ensemble performance.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Individualized Instruction** -
- B. **Observation and Demonstration** -
- C. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- D. **Classroom Activity** -
- E. **Student Presentations** -
- F. Outside practice

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Reading 1: Read the internet article on the difference in articulation and phrasing between Medium Swing and Latin jazz and be prepared to demonstrate them.
- B. Reading 2: Read through your part of an assigned chart. Locate difficult passages and formulate an approach for effective practice of these passages.
- C. Arranging: Choose a jazz standard and arrange it for the combo. Demonstrate a good understanding of orchestration, voicings, transpositions, and formal concepts.
- D. Composition: Compose a 5-7 minute piece for the combo and lead the rehearsal by pointing out key elements like form, structure, improvised sections, etc.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Quizzes
- 2. Projects
- 3. Group Projects
- 4. Class Participation
- 5. Home Work
- 6. Final Class Performance
- 7. Final Public Performance
- 8. Other:
Practice

B. **Frequency**

Weekly homework assignments.

Two performances per semester. The final one will be open to the public.

Quizzes 10 times a semester.

Practice every day (using practice logs as proof)

3 composition projects and 3 arranging projects

5 group projects

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Hal Leonard Corporation. *The Real Book - Volume 1: Book/USB Flash Drive Pack*. 1st e ed., Hal Leonard, 2012.
- 2. Markley, Ben . *A Practical Approach To Jazz Improvisation*. 1st e ed., Jamey Aebersold, 2015.
- 3. Aebersold, Jamey. *Play-A-Long Series, Vol. 133, Down By The Riverside*. 1st e ed., Jamey Aebersold, 2015.
- 4. Fraley, Ryan. *Jazz Combo Plus, Score Book 1 Vol. 6*. 1st e ed., CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform , 2015.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: