

Jazz History

MUS 241 (2008TRI1-L and 2008TRI1-R)

Fall 2008

Instructor: Vladan Milenkovic (milenkov@augsborg.edu)
Meeting Times: online course
Credit Hours: 1.0
Office Hours: by appointment

Required Textbook

1. Gridley, Mark C. Jazz Styles: History and Analysis, tenth edition, 2009, w/three accompanying CDs
2. Listening tracks contents list

Listening CDs

See the list of tracks in Moodle and the CDs which came with your textbook. Depending on the track, some of them you can listen through Moodle, and others will be located on compact discs.

Exams

Four equally weighted exams will be given testing your comprehension of material presented in class. These are non-cumulative: **each exam will cover only material presented since the previous exam.** Each exam will include appropriate listening questions. Remember to prepare for these, following the listening list (in Moodle). **Know the selections inside out!**

Grading

1. Four written and listening exams (15% each).....60%
2. Written research paper.....20%
3. Short live performance report.....10%
4. Forum/online discussion participation.....10%

Written Report

1. Topic and scope of paper must be approved
2. Outline and bibliography must be submitted prior to writing of report
3. Paper must be a minimum of 750 words (max. of 1,000), typed (double-spaced), with end notes

Live Performance Report

1. You can choose any live jazz event in Twin Cities (see www.tcjs.org for monthly concert schedules)
2. Report should be no longer than two pages (double spaced)

Note: late papers will lose a full (letter) grade for every day they are late.

Due Dates

1. Sun., Sep. 28 Exam #1 (written & listening, includes Jazz Origins through Early Jazz, or Chapters 1-5)
2. Sun., Oct. 5 Topic for report must be approved by this date
3. Sun., Oct. 12 Exam #2 (written & listening, includes Swing, Ellington and Basie, or Chapters 6-8)
4. Sun., Oct. 19 Bibliography and outline for written report due
5. Sun., Oct. 26 Exam #3 (written & listening, includes Bop, Cool Jazz and Hard-Bop, or Chapters 9-11), and live performance report due
6. Sun., Nov. 9 Written research paper due
7. Sun., Nov. 16 Exam #4 (written & listening, includes period from 1960 to present, or Chapters 12-18)

Reading Schedule

Reading assignments should be completed by following lecture dates:

- Sep. 8-14 - Chapters #1-3 (Introduction to the language of Jazz and Improvisation)
- Sep. 15-21 - Chapters #4-5 (Jazz origins, Early Jazz to early-mid 1930's)
- Sep. 22-28 - Chapters #6-7 (Era of Swing: the early 1930's-late 1940's, Big Bands, Duke Ellington)
- Sep. 29-Oct. 5 - Chapters #7-8 (Duke Ellington cont., The Count Basie Bands)
- Oct. 6-12 - Chapters #9 (1940's revolution: Be-Bop)
- Oct. 13-19 - Chapters #9-10 (Bop cont., Cool Jazz)
- Oct. 20-26 - Chapters #11-12 (Hard Bop, Miles Davis and his groups)
- Oct. 27-Nov. 2 - Chapters #12-14 (Miles cont., John Coltrane, Free Jazz and 1960's Avant-Garde)
- Nov. 3-9 - Chapters #15-16 (Bill Evans and other influential pianists, 1970's Jazz-Rock Fusion)
- Nov. 10-16 - Chapters #17-18 (Contemporary trends in US and Europe, Acid Jazz, ECM, NYC downtown scene)

Topics

1. Introduction
2. Jazz and Improvisation
3. Blues, Early Jazz to early-mid 1930's
4. Swing era
5. Big Bands
6. Music of Duke Ellington
7. The Count Basie Bands, Kansas City Jazz
8. Be-Bop
9. Cool Jazz, West Coast Jazz, Third Stream
10. 1950's Hard Bop
11. Miles Davis
12. John Coltrane
13. 1960's Avant-Garde
14. Free Jazz
15. 1970's Jazz-Rock Fusion
16. Bill Evans and other influential pianists

17. Contemporary trends in US and Europe
18. Acid Jazz
19. ECM
20. NYC downtown scene