

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

**MUSIC 111 – HISTORY OF JAZZ**

3 hours lecture, 3 units

**Catalog Description**

Listening and reading survey course covering the history of jazz from its origins to the present. Includes style periods, significant artists, the broad cultural context of jazz, and the development of critical listening skills.

**Prerequisite**

None

**Course Content**

- 1) Introductory discussion of musical elements including rhythm, timbre, melody, harmony and form, with emphasis on the development of enhanced aural perception
- 2) The origins of jazz including West African musical practices, African American musical traditions, and 19th century American popular music styles
- 3) Early jazz styles from New Orleans and Chicago jazz through swing
- 4) Modern jazz styles from bebop to fusion
- 5) Recent stylistic trends in jazz

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Employ musical concepts such as rhythm, timbre, harmony, form to apply critical listening skills to jazz music.
- 2) Identify verbally and recognize aurally both the various jazz and jazz-related styles, and the outstanding artists associated with them.
- 3) Place the development of jazz music within the broader context of American culture and society.
- 4) Apply formal models such as 32-bar song form, 12-bar blues, improvisation and variation form to selected repertoire examples.

**Method of Evaluation**

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Presentation projects that measure students' ability to identify the style characteristics and significant contributions of outstanding artists.
- 2) Written homework assignments and concert reports that measure students' ability to identify jazz styles and artists, place those styles in larger social and cultural contexts, and apply formal models such as 32-bar song form in a live performance setting.
- 3) Quizzes and exams that use objective, essay, and listening questions to measure students' ability to identify musical elements, important style features and figures in jazz, and apply formal models to specific musical examples.
- 4) Critical listening exercises that measure students' ability to aurally observe musical concepts and to apply formal models to repertoire examples.

**Special Materials Required of Student**

None

**Minimum Instructional Facilities**

Smart classroom with writing board with musical staves, stereo audio system, document camera

**Method of Instruction**

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Demonstration
- 3) In-class group exercises in musical analysis
- 4) Assigned listening
- 5) Attendance at concerts

**Out-of-Class Assignments**

- 1) Reading and listening assignments
- 2) Short answer worksheets that cover assigned reading
- 3) Concert reports

**Texts and References**

- 1) Required (representative example): Gioia, Tec, *The History of Jazz*. 3rd ed., Oxford, 2021.
- 2) Supplemental: None

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Observe and identify musical elements in recorded or live performances.
- 2) Identify the features of the major style periods in jazz.