

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

MUSIC 156-157-256-257 – JAZZ ENSEMBLE

3 hours laboratory, 1 unit

Catalog Description

Study of representative jazz ensemble compositions in a wide variety of styles at regular rehearsals and public performances.

Prerequisite

Audition

Course Content

- 1) Representative pieces from the history of jazz and popular music
- 2) Proper phrasing and articulation
- 3) Technical weaknesses which hinder good reading will be exposed to improve sight reading ability

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Accurately interpret stylistic elements from the various styles of music in the Jazz idiom.
- 2) Identify the chord changes and forms of representative jazz compositions.
- 3) Use jazz scales and chords to improvise musical passages.
- 4) Rehearse a combo in the performance of a musical selection.
- 5) Employ jazz harmony to accompany a soloist during musical performances.

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) Performance assignments that measure students' ability to execute instrumental parts with technical accuracy and appropriate style mannerisms, and to improvise both melodies and accompaniments in the jazz idiom.
- 2) Weekly rehearsal performance quizzes that measure students' ability to identify differences in musical styles and critically assess the qualitative aspects of performances.
- 3) Final concert performance exam that measures students' ability to execute instrumental parts with reliable technique and musical expression within the style parameters of jazz improvisation.

Special Materials Required of Student

Musical instrument, music paper

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom big enough for large jazz ensembles, music stands, PA system, microphones, instrument amplifiers, acoustic and electric piano, MIDI synthesizer, drum set, percussion instruments, music staff blackboard, stereo system

Method of Instruction

Rehearsal of standard jazz, rock and pop repertoire in large and small ensembles in preparation for public performance and recording sessions

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Weekly performance assignments
- 2) Analysis of assigned compositions
- 3) Learning music terminology

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative repertoire):
 - a. Blues and the Abstract Truth – Oliver Nelson.
 - b. Shiny Stockings – Frank Foster.
 - c. Peaches en Regalia – Frank Zappa.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) Evaluate live and recorded performances for technical accuracy and stylistic integrity
- 2) Perform musical works as part of an ensemble with technical proficiency and appropriate stylistic interpretation