



## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**MUS155**

**Course Number**

**History of Jazz and Blues**

**Course title**

**3**

**Credits**

**3 lecture/0 lab**

**Hours**

**Catalog description:**

A study of the evolution of jazz and blues from their origins in West African music and dance to their development as a major 20th century art form. The significant stylistic phases of jazz are examined from early blues and ragtime through swing and be-bop to avant garde and fusion. The impact of the African-American tradition on contemporary rock and pop music is also explored.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Corequisites:** None

**Required texts/other materials:**

Porter, Lewis and Michael Ullman. *Jazz: From Its Origins to Present.* Pearson Publishing, 1992.

**Last revised:** Fall 2018

**Course coordinator:** Scott Hornick, Assistant Professor of Music – CM 149;  
(609) 570-3716; [hornicks@mccc.edu](mailto:hornicks@mccc.edu)

COURSE OUTLINE:

MUS155

A. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To instill in the student an awareness of the artistic merit of the African-American musical art forms. (*Gen Ed Goal 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill C and G*)
2. To acquaint the student with the historical and cultural origins of jazz and blues and their related idioms. (*Gen Ed Goal 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill C and G*)
3. To familiarize the student with the development and evolution of African-American music through its various stylistic phases and to acquaint the student with historically significant practitioners of the art form. (*Gen Ed Goal 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill A, C and G*)
4. To provide the student with the conceptual basis necessary to appreciate and evaluate the music on the levels of rhythm, melody, and harmony and to appreciate the unique applications of these elements in jazz and blues (the blues scale, seventh chords, syncopation, nonmetrical rhythm, etc.). (*Gen Ed Goal 2, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill B, C and G*)
5. To make the student aware of the multicultural nature of the art form through an understanding of the interplay of cultural influences at work in the music from the polyrhythms and call-response patterns from Africa to the European folk ballad traditions to the chord progressions and song structures of Tin-Pan Alley to the dance rhythms of Latin America. (*Gen Ed Goal 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill A, C and G*)
6. To sensitize the student to the pervasive influence of jazz and blues on the entire gamut of pop and rock music and to enable the student to identify elements of African-American art music in such diverse genres as heavy metal, R&B, and rap. (*Gen Ed Goal 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill A,C and G*)
7. To establish jazz and blues as the only uniquely American musical art forms. (*Gen Ed Goal 5, 6, 7 and 8; MCCC Core Skill C and G*)

**Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills****General Education Knowledge Goals**

**Goal 1. Communication.** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

**Goal 2. Mathematics.** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.

**Goal 4. Technology.** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

**Goal 5. Social Science.** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

**Goal. 6. Humanities.** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

**Goal 7. History.** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

**Goal 8. Diversity.** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

**MCCC Core Skills**

**Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

**Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving.** Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

**Goal C. Ethical Decision-Making.** Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations.

**Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility.** Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

**B. COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR TESTING AND MEASURING**

1. Prompt and regular class attendance.
2. Timely completion of weekly reading and listening assignments.
3. The maintaining of a journal into which notes and observations pertaining to weekly reading and listening assignments are to be entered. Journals will be collected and graded periodically throughout the semester.
4. Attendance at two live jazz performances and a two to three-page report on each.
5. Periodic quizzes on the factual/historical material learned in the course.
6. Final project in the form of an in-class presentation on a course-related topic. The presentation should be five to seven minutes in length and will be accompanied by a two to three page formal outline to be handed in.

**C. METHOD OF DELIVERY**

Course material will be presented and developed in a variety of ways, including in-class lectures and listening examples, videos of jazz greats in performance, visits by guest lecturers/performers, and class discussion of listening and reading assignments.

**Student Success Coach:** Mercer students have a Student Success Coach available to support their efforts during their first semester through graduation. Students can connect with a Coach by emailing [Successcoach@mccc.edu](mailto:Successcoach@mccc.edu) or calling 570-3451. [www.mccc.edu/coaching](http://www.mccc.edu/coaching) has useful information about coaching and student success. For additional information, please contact:

Latonya Ashford Ligon at 570-3292 or by email [ashfordl@mccc.edu](mailto:ashfordl@mccc.edu) .

**Academic Advising after your first semester:** Faculty advisors provide help with completing your major after your first semester. Your faculty advisor should be listed on the MyMercer portal. If you need further assistance please contact your division Executive Assistant.

Liberal Arts: Debbie Stotland LA162 570-3378 [Stotland@mccc.edu](mailto:Stotland@mccc.edu)

Business & Stem: Doris Geck BS134 570-3482 [Geckd@mccc.edu](mailto:Geckd@mccc.edu)

Health Professions: Barbara Pieslak MS126 570-3383 [pieslakb@mccc.edu](mailto:pieslakb@mccc.edu)

**Use your “MyMercer” Portal:** Your “MyMercer” portal contains your MercerMail, financial information, class schedule, grades, your advisor and other information. Check your “MyMercer” portal every day. Visit [www.mccc.edu/mymercer](http://www.mccc.edu/mymercer) to access your portal.

**Center for Inclusion, Transition and Accessibility: Arlene Stinson, Director:**

Mercer County Community College recognizes disability as an aspect of diversity and the Center for Transition, Inclusion and Accessibility works to ensure inclusive learning environments by encouraging the college community to examine accessibility and through the delivery of effective academic accommodations to qualified individuals. Mercer County Community College is in compliance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

For information on Universal Design for Learning, information regarding meeting the needs of students with disabilities, or information regarding the provision of academic accommodations please visit the Center for Transition, Inclusion and Accessibility in LB216 or contact:

Arlene Stinson [stinsona@mccc.edu](mailto:stinsona@mccc.edu), Lisa Ward [wardl@mccc.edu](mailto:wardl@mccc.edu) or Susan Onaitis [onaitiss@mccc.edu](mailto:onaitiss@mccc.edu)

**Tutorial Center: Charles Haas, Director**

Tutoring Center services are free and available for all students. Drop in or contact the following to schedule an appointment.

Charles Haas (WWC), LB214, 570-3452, [haasc@mccc.edu](mailto:haasc@mccc.edu)

Angela Frumin, (TC) 311, [frumina@mccc.edu](mailto:frumina@mccc.edu) or John Kashmer, (WWC), LB214, [kashmerj@mccc.edu](mailto:kashmerj@mccc.edu)

**Career and Transfer Center:** Planning to go to work or to transfer to a 4-year college after completing your Mercer degree? Contact the Career and Transfer Center for support and advice.

Letrice Thomas (WWC transfer services), SC201, 570-3397, [thomasl@mccc.edu](mailto:thomasl@mccc.edu)

**Counseling Services:** Are you experiencing personal challenges, feeling overwhelmed? Are you having stress and anxiety? Counseling services are available free of charge. Contact:

Dorothy Gasparro Ed.S, LPC, NCC, SC239, 570-3354, [gasparrd@mccc.edu](mailto:gasparrd@mccc.edu)

**Veteran’s Services:** If you are currently serving or have served in the US Armed Forces, or are a family member of someone who has, our Veterans Services Team is here to help you optimize your education benefits. Contact:

John Becker, SC220, 570-3240 or Jennifer Whitfield, SC222, 570-3269, [whitfiej@mccc.edu](mailto:whitfiej@mccc.edu) or [vets@mccc.edu](mailto:vets@mccc.edu)

**Important Fall 2018 dates:**

09/11/18 – Last day for 100% refund

09/30/18– Start FASFA for spring

10/02/18 – 10-week semester starts

11/09/18 – Last day to withdraw from 14-week class

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

As stated in the student handbook, “A student will be guilty of violating academic integrity if he/she (a) knowingly represents the work of others as his/her own, (b) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in the execution of academic work, or (c) gives fraudulent assistance to another student.” Students should read the Academic Integrity policy in the MCCC Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

**Academic Dishonesty will result in failure of this course.**

### **Accommodations**

Mercer County Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented differing ability or think that you may have a differing ability that is protected under the ADA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact Arlene Stinson in LB 216 [stinsona@mccc.edu](mailto:stinsona@mccc.edu) for information regarding support services.

### **Financial Aid Application Statement**

It is recommended that student complete an application for financial aid to determine eligibility for financial assistance. Visit [www.fafsa.edu.gov](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov) to complete your application. Applications should be completed **before** December 1, 2018. Students who are interested in MCCC Foundation scholarships are expected to complete an application as well.

#### D. TOPICAL OUTLINE

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|---------|---|
| Week 1  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.) <b><u>Origins</u></b>-- Music and Dance in Africa. The importance of rhythm, call-response tradition in vocal music, and the role of music in African culture.</li> <li>b.) <b><u>The Music of Slavery</u></b>--Work songs, field hollers, and spirituals. Music as a cultural expression of the conditions of slavery.</li> </ul>             |
| Week 2. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.) <b><u>Blues I</u></b>--Early rural blues as the first significant musical form of the post slavery period. Blind Lemon Jefferson, Son House, John Lee Hooker, Robert Johnson</li> <li>b.) <b><u>Ragtime</u></b>--The first style to blend European harmony and structure with African rhythm and melody. Scott Joplin, Eubie Blake.</li> </ul> |
| Week 3. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.) <b><u>New Orleans Jazz</u></b>-- The originals of “Dixieland” jazz in the Creole culture of New Orleans. The synthesis of blues and ragtime within a</li> </ul>  |

- King marching band format. Buddy Bolden, Original Dixieland Jazz Band, Oliver's Creole Jazz Band. The migration to Chicago.
- b.) **New Orleans Style cont.**--The music's first great composer and first virtuoso. Jelly Roll Morton and Sidney Bechet.
- Week 4 a.) **Louis Armstrong.**--The first great genius of jazz. Recordings with King Oliver. The Hot Five and the Hot Seven.
- b.) **New Orleans, Chicago Style**--Chicago in the '20s. The first influx of great white innovators. "Bix" and "Tram," Red Nichols, Jack Teagarden.
- Week 5 a.) **Blues II**--The transformation of blues after the emergence of jazz. The first appearance of the great female blues singers. Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith.
- b.) **Solo Piano Styles**-- Stride piano as an outgrowth of ragtime. James P. Johnson and Fats Waller. Boogie-woogie as an outgrowth of blues and a precursor of rock and roll. Jimmy Yancey and Meade "Lux" Lewis.
- Week 6 a.) **The Swing Era**--Origins of Big Band style in the '30s. The two great pioneer band leaders--Fletcher Henderson and Benny Moten.
- b.) **The Swing Era cont.**--Count Basie and the "Kansas City Style." Basie's big bands, importance of the rhythm section, the "riff," influential Basie sidemen. The Blues influence.
- Week 7 a.) **The Swing Era, cont.**--Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw, the best of the white big band leaders. The big band craze of the 30's.
- b.) **Duke Ellington. "Master Painter"**--The second great composer in jazz. The big bands and great Ellington sidemen.
- Week 8 a.) **Small Group Swing**--The jam sessions on 52nd Street and the great soloists of the Swing Era. Roy Eldridge, Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Charlie Christian.
- b.) **The Be-Bop Rebellion**-- Be-bop as an outgrowth of small group swing jam sessions. The 32-bar song form, "playing" the changes." Charlie Parker, Dizzie Gillespie, Kenny Clark, Max Roach, Bud Powell, Thelonious Monk.
- Week 9 a.) **Charlie Parker**-- "Bird," the second great genius of jazz after Armstrong. Partnership with "Diz." Pervasive influence on all subsequent jazz.

- b.) **Monk**--Eccentric genius of the piano. Also, successors to Bird and Diz--Fats Navarro and Sonny Stitt.
- Week 10 a.) **“Birth of the Cool”**--Seminal recording session with Miles Davis and Gil Evans launches the cool school of jazz. Modern Jazz Quartet and the influx of European Classical influence.
- b.) **Cool cont.**--Lenny Tristano, Gerry Mulligan, Dave Brubeck, and the West Coast style. Chet Baker.
- Week 11 a.) **Hard Bop aka Funky Bop aka Soul Jazz**--The return to blues and bebop. gospel-based influences combined with the energy and harmonies of Art Blakey, Horace Silver, Adderly Bros., Jimmy Smith.
- b.) **Clifford Brown and Sonny Rollins**--Continuation and perfection of traditional be-bop in the ‘50s.
- Week 12 a.) **Miles Davis**-- Classic quintet recordings of the ‘50s. The sextet of ‘59. Modal jazz another “milestone.”
- b.) **John Coltrane and Charles Mingus**--The questing genius and the composer who resists categorization.
- Week 13 a.) **Avante-Garde**--The “free jazz” movement of the ‘60s. Ornette Coleman, Cecil Taylor, John Coltrane.
- b.) **Miles Davis**--The quintet of the ‘60s. Apogee of small group jazz. Fusion begins “in a silent way.”
- Week 14 a.) **Blues III**--Urban blues of the ‘50s and ‘60s. T-Bone Walker, Howling Wolf, Muddy Waters, B.B. King.
- b.) **Rock--the Bastard Child**--How essential aspects of jazz and blues gave rise to and have shaped the direction of rock from the ‘50s to the present.
- Week 15 a.) **Fusion and the Miles Davis Alumni Association**--The fusion movement traced from Miles Davis through the various groups formed by his influential sidemen. John McLaughlin, Chick Corea, Zawinul and Shorter, Herbie Hancock.
- b.) **Jazz in the ‘90s**--Observations, conclusions, and predictions. Pat Metheny, Yellow Jackets, Spyro Gyra, Marsalis Bros., Eric Clapton and the blues.
- Week 16 **Final Evaluation.**

## WEEKLY READING AND LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

MUS 155

## Week

- 1
- a. reading: Making of Jazz, chap. 1 (Xerox), J. L. Collier  
listening: Riverside History of Classic Jazz, tr. 1.
  - b. reading: Jazz, Tanner, Megill, Gerow, chap. 3 and 4.  
listening: accompanying CD, tr. 4-9.
- 2.
- a. reading: Introduction to Jazz History, Megill and Demory, chap. 1, 2, and 3.  
listening: Riverside, vol. 1, tr. 3 - "Shuckin' Sugar," Blind Lemon Jefferson;  
Vol. 3, tr. 6 - "Big Bill Blues," Big Bill Broonzy.
  - b. reading: Introduction to Jazz History, Megill and Demory, chap. 6. Jazz from its Origins to the Present, Ullman & Porter, chap. 2.  
listening: Smithsonian Collection of Classic Jazz, tr.1 - "Maple Leaf Rag," Scott Joplin.
- 3.
- a. reading: Jazz, Tanner, Megill Gerow, chap. 6; Jazz From its Origins to the Present, Porter & Ullman, chap. 3 & 4, pp. 39-45.  
listening: "Dippermouth Blues," King Oliver's Creole Jazz Band, Smithsonian CD1 track 5.  
  
supplemental listening: Riverside, "Froggie Moore," King Oliver's CJB & "Livery Stable Blues," New Orleans Rhythm Kings.
  - b. reading: Porter & Ullman, pp. 35-45  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 1, tr. 8&9 - "Grandpa's Spells" and "King Porter Stomp."
- 4.
- a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 5  
listening: Smithsonian, vol.1, tr. 10&11 - "Cake Walkin' Babies from Home" & "Blue Horizon."
  - b. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 6.  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 1, tr. 14, 15, 17 - "Potato Head Blues," "Struttin' with Some Barbecue," "West End Blues."



5.
  - a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 7, pp. 74-87 re: Beiderbecke, Trumbauer, Nichols and Teagarden.  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 1, tr. 21 & 22 - "Singin' the Blues" and "Riverboat Shuffle."
  - b. reading: Megill & Demory (library), chap. 7&8.  
listening: Riverside, "Harlem Strut," James P. Johnson, "The Fives," Jimmy Yancey, "Far Ago Blues," Meade Lux Lewis.
6.
  - a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 9, pp. 116-125, pp. 134-138.  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 2, tr. 2 & 4 - "Wrapping it Up," Fletcher Henderson and "Moten Swing," Benny Moten.
  - b. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 10  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 2, tr. 20 & 21 - "Doggin' Around" and "Taxi War Dance," Count Basie.
7.
  - a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 9, pp. 138-146  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 2, tr. 23 & 24 - "I Found a New Baby" & "Breakfast Feud" (Goodman w/small groups).
  - b. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 8  
listening: Smithsonian, vol 3, tr. 3, 4, 5, 6 - "Diminuendo in Blue," "Ko-Ko," "Concerto for Cootie," "Cottontail."
8.
  - a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 11  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 3, tr. 9, 17, 22, 24 - "The Man I Love" (Coleman Hawkins), "I Can't Believe that You're in Love With Me," (Roy Eldridge & Benny Carter), "Lester Leaps In" (Lester Young w/ Count Basie), "Breakfast Feud" (Charlie Christian w/ Benny Goodman).
  - b. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 12, pp. 185-208  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 3 tr. 11 - "Saw' Nuff" (Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker)
9.
  - a. reading: Porter & Ullman, chap. 13  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 3, tr. 12, 14, 18, 19 - "KoKo," "Embraceable You," "Crazeology," "Parker's Mood"
  - b. reading: Megill & Demory (library), chap. 19  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 3, tr. 21 - "A Night in Tunisia" (Bud Powell), vol. 4, tr. 6 - "Misterioso" (T. Monk)

10. reading: Porter and Ullman, Chap. 14  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 4, tr. 1 - “Boplicity” (from “Birth of the Cool”), tr. 2 - “Subconscious Lee” (Lenny Tristano), tr. 14 - “Django” (Modern Jazz Quartet). “Take Five” (Dave Brubeck, on album “Time Out”)
11. reading: Porter and Ullman, chap. 15, pp. 257-271  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 4, tr. 15 - “Pent-Up House” (Sonny Rollins w/Clifford Brown, & Max Roach); “Song for My Father” (Horace Silver Quintet, title cut from CD)
12. a. reading: Porter and Ullman, chap. 16, pp. 281-299  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 4, tr. 12 - “Summertime” (Miles Davis w/Gil Evan’s Orchestra), vol. 5, tr. 3 - “So What” (Miles Davis Sextet)
- b. reading: Porter and Ullman, chap. 15, pp. 271-278; chap. 17  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 4, tr. 13 - “Haitian Fight Song” (Charles Mingus Quintet); “My Favorite Things” (John Coltrane, title cut from CD)
13. a. reading: Porter and Ullman, chap. 18  
listening: Smithsonian, vol. 5, tr. 9 - “Free Jazz” (Ornette Coleman Double Quartet)
- b. reading: Porter and Ullman, Chap. 16, pp. 294-299  
listening: “Four” and “So What” (CD “Four and More,” Miles Davis Quintet)
14. No specific reading or listening this week. Catch up on your journal assignments and work on final presentations.
15. reading: Porter and Ullman, chap. 21 & 24  
listening: “Cool Weasle Boogie” (Chick Corea, “Electric Band”); “Have You Heard?” (Pat Metheney, “Letter From Home”)