



COURSE OUTLINE

MUS178, MUS179, MUS278, MUS279

Course Number

Jazz Band I, II, III, IV

Course title

1

Credits

1 lecture/2 lab

Hours

Catalog description:

An opportunity to explore classic jazz literature through rehearsal and performance. Repertoire will be selected from standards of the swing era to be-bop to contemporary funk and fusion with an emphasis on proper articulation, groove, and dynamics specific to each style.

A maximum of eight credits may be earned in Jazz Band.

Prerequisites: Ability to play a Jazz band instrument.

Corequisites: None

Required texts/other materials:

Music of composers and arrangers from the several periods of stage band literature.

Last revised: Fall 2019

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COURSE OUTLINE:

MUS 178, 179, 278, 279

A. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To teach the basic fundamentals of jazz band playing to students who have had previous instrumental music playing experience. *(MCCC Core Skills F and G)*

B. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Jazz band will offer the student with musical ability an opportunity to explore the technique of jazz ensemble playing. *(MCCC Core Skills B and F)*
2. Performance for the college and community are planned so that the student can gain practical experience of “playing” as well as having the occasion to demonstrate his or her learning. *(MCCC Core Skills B, F and G)*
3. A student who has completed the course sequence should have read, with minimum difficulty, a significant part of the standard jazz literature. *(MCCC Core Skills B, D, F and G)*
4. Improvisation will be explored as it relates to solo sections of musical arrangements and students having problems in this area will be helped. *(MCCC Core Skills B and F)*
5. Students with a major emphasis in music will better understand how to conduct a jazz ensemble, and it is hoped that this experience will help them to be more efficient teachers and performers in this area of music. *(MCCC Core Skills A, B, F and G)*
6. Since each student enters the class with strengths, weaknesses, and different playing levels, progress must be rated in several areas throughout the semester. Through class instruction, with individual attention, and example set by superior performance and knowledge in the following areas *(MCCC Core Skills B and F)*:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| a. Tone | d. Phrasing |
| b. Technique | e. Intonation |
| c. Attack | |

Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills

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 D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group 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.

C. MATERIAL COVERED

1. At the beginning of each semester, the instructor evaluates the group in terms of the five areas stated in Specific Objective #6. Since there are different skill problems and different levels of playing, depending on the personnel of the Jazz Band, the instructor selects the pieces of literature that he or she feels corresponds to strengthening the weak areas.
2. Work throughout the semester is based on improving the overall performance ability of the ensemble. Sectional rehearsals shall constitute at least one-quarter of the total semester class time. Here is where skills germane to either the brass or sax or rhythm section are discussed and practiced.

D. TESTING AND MEASURING

1. Evaluation of the progress of the ensemble and of the individual is done frequently by the instructor. Students are assigned home practicing and are checked when appropriate. Concert performances are required and serve as performance exams for the purpose of grading. Class attendance is also an integral part of each student's evaluation.
2. Students are often encouraged to listen to recordings of the types of music that they are studying. When possible, students are expected to attend presentations of notable jazz groups and artists. Guest lecturers and performers are brought into rehearsal whenever feasible.

E. BASIC TEACHING MATERIALS

1. Developing the Stage Band, Selmer
2. Periodicals published by the National Association of Jazz Educators
3. Instrumental Music for Today's Schools, Robert House
4. The Instrumentalist
5. Recordings at the Library and Music Department

NOTE: MUS 179, 278, and 279 offer more advanced experience levels of the initial course Jazz Band MUS 119. It is possible at any particular semester to have students in the same class from all four levels: MUS178, 179, 278, and 279. It is the responsibility of the instructor to provide development and instruction on all levels.

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} 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. The application is **FREE** and available for completion beginning **October 1, 2016** for the 2017- 18 academic year. Visit www.fafsa.edu.gov to complete your application. Applications should be completed **before** December 1, 2016. Students who are interested in MCCC Foundation scholarships are expected to complete an application as well.