

**MUS 133/143: Intro to the Arts**  
**HTU: Department of Music**  
**Spring 2007**  
Time: 10-10:50am MWF  
Location: J-M 200

**Martin McCain, Instructor**  
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Office Hours J-M 204: TBD

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**Course Title:** MUS 133/143: Intro to the Arts: Jazz Appreciation

**Course Description:** An introduction to and discussion of the jazz idiom, emphasizing listening skills and comprehension of the process of jazz performance and improvisation. Particular attention will be paid to musical contributions of leading jazz artists throughout instrumentation factor highly in this course as well.

**Text and CD (required):** Gridley, Jazz Styles and Jazz Classics CD (Ninth Edition).

**Assignments:** Regular reading, listening, and writing assignments will be made.

**Writing Assignments:** There will be two writing assignments where you will write about listening selections. Due dates of the writing assignments TBD.

**Listening:** Selections, on which the listening quizzes will be based, will be selected by the instructor. Listening criteria will be discussed before hand.

**Performance Attendance:** There will be two summaries of either a live jazz performance or reviews of a jazz CD required. Date TBD

**Examinations/Quizzes:** Expect regular pop quizzes in addition to three exams. Exam dates TBD.

**Attendance:** Most issues related to attendance will be treated on a case-by-case basis. However, my official policy is as follows. You will be allowed 3 unexcused absences. Each absence beyond 3 may lower your grade by 2%. Tardiness in classes of this size causes a significant disruption. If you have schedule conflicts which may result in you arriving late, please try to let me know ahead of time. More than 10 tardies over the course of the semester may lower your grade by 2%.

**2-3 absences, neg. one letter grade;**  
**4-5 absences, neg. two letter grades;**  
**6-7 absences, neg. three letter grades;**  
**8 or more absences, neg. four letter grades.**

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the instructor only. Do not be late, doors will be locked at **10:10 a.m.**

**Grading:** Grades will based on percentage of points possible. The course average will be rounded to the nearest tenth of a percentage point, as follow:

A	90.0-100.0
B	80.0-89.9
C	70.0-79.9
D	60.0-69.9
F	59.9 and below

Grades will be computed according to the following formula:

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2 (Mid-term)	20%
Exam 3	30%
Performance Review	10%
CD Review	10%
Quizzes	5%
Weekly Q&A	5%

Make-up tests will be left to the discretion of the instructor. All make-up tests are in essay format.

There will be opportunities to earn extra credit by attending additional live performances along with a brief write-up of the performance. Performances TBA.

We will approach the art form of jazz from the following perspectives:

**Foundational**- how the music works; how jazz is put together; how to talk about music

**Philosophical**-how to develop your own aesthetic for evaluating music of all types; how to make informed decisions about the music you choose to incorporate in your future

**Historical**-who's who among the greatest jazz players; how to recognize them; and why they are so highly regarded

**Stylistic**-how jazz styles differ from one another; how to hear those differences

**Sociological**-what the musicians are trying to say; how the music relates to societal factors and historical events

I hope that this course will provide a sturdy base of information regarding jazz styles and the analysis of those styles.

If you have a disability and need academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, or services, please see me privately as soon as possible.