

## **Music 305**

### **Jazz History for Musicians**

**Spring 2008**

#### **Instructor:**

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Course website: <http://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu>

Office hours: T 10-11; and by appointment

#### **Required Materials**

Lawn, Richard. *Experiencing Jazz* (New York: McGraw/Hill, 2007).

Class will be dedicated to guided listening, discussion, and lectures, which will explore issues not covered in the text. Attendance is required. Outside work will consist of reading, listening, online discussions, quizzes, and a final presentation.

#### **Online Discussions**

Online discussions will be graded as follows:

A= Clearly written and fully exploring the issue(s) at hand. Strong, creative ideas that are supported with specific ideas and information drawn from the text or the listening.

B= More general commentary. Contains ideas which, while they may be correct, are unsupported and do not completely cover the issue(s).

C= Weak content, erroneous information. Unclear writing or poor spelling.

D= Fails to address the issue(s) at hand. Contains commentary which is unprofessional or disrespectful of peer writing.

F= Incomplete or contains plagiarized material.

#### **Quizzes**

There will be twelve short-answer/multiple choice quizzes, to be taken at specified times on the internet. Missed quizzes may not be made up.

## **Presentations**

Instead of a cumulative final examination, each student group will give a 7 to 10-minute presentation at the end of the semester on a recording not covered in class or on the listening tapes. Presentations should include background information on the band or artist, specific information on the piece you chose (who composed it, when was it composed, when was it recorded, etc.), and some description of the piece itself. How does it relate to the jazz tradition? Can you draw any connections between the piece/artist and another artist we've covered? Are there specific moments in the piece that you find particularly meaningful/powerful/interesting?

## **Late Policy**

Any work handed in (or posted to online discussions) late will be lowered one letter grade per day.

## **Grading**

Based on 100 possible points:

Online discussions x 10 points ea topic      30 A=10, B=8, C=7, D=6, F=0

Presentations      10 A=10, B=8, C=7, D=6, F=0

Quizzes x 5 points each      60

## **Class Attendance**

Two absences allowed. Beyond two, you must inform me ahead of time if you will be absent. Any unexcused absences beyond the two freebies will result in a 1/3 decrease in your final letter grade per absence (e.g. an A becomes A-, a B+ becomes B).

Thanks