



MARTHA BRADLEY EVANS
Center for Teaching Excellence

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Musc 1236-001
Survey of Jazz
MWF 10:45-11:35 RM 270 DGH
Spring Semester 2025
Dr. Cathryn Clayton
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Course Description

This course will survey the history of jazz from the 1890s to the present. In this course you will explore the art of improvisation and performance. You will learn about the various styles of jazz and the fascinating musicians who created them. African American experience within the United States provides the context for jazz's history and will be investigated in depth in this course.

Course Outcomes and Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Acquire the tools to comprehend the musical masterpieces from the jazz repertoire.
- Explore the various experiences of African American jazz performers who dealt with institutional racism from the 1890s to the present and how it influences their art.
- Establish methodologies for the creation of a thriving multi-cultural American society.

Course Requirements

- Attendance and participation – 10%
- Homework assignments – 40%
- Concert Attendance – 20%
- Three exams – 30%

Grading Scale - %

A	93-100	C+	77-79	D-	60-62
A-	90-92	C	73-76	E<	60
B+	87-89	C-	70-72		
B	83-86	D+	67-69		
B-	80-82	D	63-66		

University Policies

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities.

All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the [Center for Disability & Access](#) (CDA). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. Prior notice is appreciated. To read the full accommodations policy for the University of Utah, please see Section Q of the [Instruction & Evaluation regulations](#).

In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Any recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should never be made publicly available. In addition, recordings must be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

If you will need accommodations in this class, or for more information about what support they provide, contact:

Center for Disability & Access

801-581-5020

disability.utah.edu

65 Student Services Building

201 S 1460 E

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Safety at the U

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more safety information and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)

dps.utah.edu

1735 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Addressing Sexual Misconduct

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status, or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to university officials:

Title IX Coordinator & Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

801-581-8365

oeo.utah.edu

135 Park Building

201 Presidents' Cir.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Office of the Dean of Students

801-581-7066

deanofstudents.utah.edu

270 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

To file a police report, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)

dps.utah.edu

1735 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

If you do not feel comfortable reporting to authorities, the U's Victim-Survivor Advocates provide free, confidential, and trauma-informed support services to students, faculty, and staff who have experienced interpersonal violence.

To privately explore options and resources available to you with an advocate, contact:

Center for Campus Wellness

801-581-7776

wellness.utah.edu

350 Student Services Building

201 S. 1460 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Academic Misconduct

It is expected that students comply with University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: [Policy 6-410: Student Academic Performance, Academic Conduct, and Professional and Ethical Conduct](#).

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code:

"...Includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct."

For details on plagiarism and other important course conduct issues, see the U's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Updated mandatory syllabus policies regarding the ADA Act, Safety at the U, Addressing Sexual Misconduct, and Academic Misconduct can be viewed at: <https://cte.utah.edu/instructor-education/syllabus/institutional-policies.php>

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic/Discussion</u>	<u>Due Dates:</u>
Week 1:	Course Introduction and Syllabus/Schedule Review Chapter 1 Jazz - Musical Elements/Instruments	Assignment 1 1/10/25
Week 2:	Chapter 2 Jazz Form and Improvisation	
Week 3:	Chapter 3 The Roots of Jazz and the American Experience Assignment 2 1/24/25	

Week 4:	Chapter 4 New Orleans/Jazz in the 1920's/African American Experience in New Orleans at the turn of the 20 th Century Assignment 3 1/31/25
Week 5:	Chapter 6 Louis Armstrong/Exam 1 In Class 2/7/25
Week 6:	Chapter 7 Swing Bands/ Women in Jazz/Territory Bands
Week 7:	Chapter 8 Count Basie/Duke Ellington Assignment 4 2/21/25
Week 8:	Chapter 9-10 Billie Holiday/Ella Fitzgerald
Week 9:	Chapter 11-12 Bebop/Cool Jazz/Bop Assignment 5 3/7/25
Week 10:	Exam 2 In Class 3/21/25
Week 11:	Chapter 13 Jazz in the 1950's
Week 12:	Chapter 14 -15 Modality/Avant-Garde Assignment 6 3/27/25
Week 13:	Chapter 16 Fusion, R&B, Latin Jazz
Week 14:	Chapter 17 Fusion, Rock, and Beyond Assignment 7 4/10/25
Week 15:	Chapter 18 Historicism in Jazz
Week 16:	Chapter 19 Jazz Today Assignment 8 4/22/25
Finals Week:	Final Exam In Class 4/29/25