

Montgomery County Community College
MUS 116
Jazz Around the World
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Jazz around the World explores the rich history and international influence of jazz. The course traces jazz's African American origins in New Orleans to its impact on a global scale to foster an appreciation for, and awareness of, the diverse cultural forces that have contributed to the development of jazz in the United States and abroad. The class will examine the social, political, artistic, and cultural contexts that shaped jazz and were, in turn, shaped by jazz.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- ENG 010A Basic Writing, ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 ESL Basic Writing II
- REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehensive Development II

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

Course Comments:

Fall only

| LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to: | LEARNING ACTIVITIES | EVALUATION METHODS |
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| 1. Identify specific musical characteristics of jazz and how they contribute to the unique sounds of the genre. | Lectures Readings Listening to Recordings Viewing of Filmed and Live Musical Events Classroom Discussions of Shared Musical Experiences Research Project | Written Quizzes and Tests Written Research Assignment AND/OR Performance Review Assignment Instructor Evaluation of In-Class Discussion Homework Assignments |

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| <p>2. Analyze how the musical characteristics of jazz reflect and respond to America's social (including race, religion, and gender), historical, economic, and political contexts.</p> | <p>Lectures Readings Listening to Recordings Viewing of Filmed and Live Musical Events Classroom Discussions of Shared Musical Experiences Research Project</p> | <p>Written Quizzes and Tests Written Research Assignment AND/OR Performance Review Assignment Instructor Evaluation of In-Class Discussion Homework Assignments</p> |
| <p>3. Evaluate the contributions of key jazz practitioners to the development and evolution of the genre.</p> | <p>Lectures Readings Listening to Recordings Viewing of Filmed and Live Musical Events Classroom Discussions of Shared Musical Experiences Research Project</p> | <p>Written Quizzes and Tests Written Research Assignment AND/OR Performance Review Assignment Instructor Evaluation of In-Class Discussion Homework Assignments</p> |
| <p>4. Connect how jazz spread globally by comparing American and international styles, and reflect on how race, identity, and appropriation shape its history.</p> | <p>Lectures Readings Listening to Recordings Viewing of Filmed and Live Musical Events Classroom Discussions of Shared Musical Experiences Research Project</p> | <p>Written Quizzes and Tests Written Research Assignment AND/OR Performance Review Assignment Instructor Evaluation of In-Class Discussion Homework Assignments</p> |

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Jazz Terminology and Theory
2. The Roots of jazz

3. New Orleans: The melting pot of cultures, social, political, and economic environment
4. The intersection of global wars, technological advances and jazz
5. U.S. musical ambassadors in the 1950's
6. International jazz festivals

LEARNING MATERIALS:

DeVeaux, Scott, and Gary Giddins. *Jazz: Essential Listening, 2nd edition*. W.W Norton, 2019.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Bruce Kaminsky

Date: 7/2025

VPAA or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 12/3/2025



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.