

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE**  
**MUS 32 (A,B,C,D) JAZZ ENSEMBLE**  
**MW 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**  
**Spring, 2020**  
**Pete Estabrook, Director/Instructor**

**Contact Information:**

Office: Forsyth Hall, Room 115a

Office phone number: (707) 527-4999 x9137

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Office Hours: M/W 2:30-3pm in 115a

To meet with the instructor outside of these posted times, please schedule a meeting in advance.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**Large Jazz Ensemble (Big Band)Text:** None (all music will be provided)

**Instrumental Skills, Practice, and Development**

- Students should practice fundamentals on their instrument (daily) in order to be able to perform ensemble parts with correct rhythm, pitch accuracy, intonation, clear and even sound, and some degree of expressive musicianship. This study is best guided by private instruction.
- All students should be able to: feel and express a rhythmic pulse, hear and respond to musical cues in time, demonstrate aural skills verbally and on their instrument.
- Players are invited to express themselves through musical improvisation when appropriate and required in a specific part in an arrangement. *However, the ability to improvise is not a requirement for this course.* It is highly recommended that, if a student is interested in studying improvisation, he/she should take one of the SRJC improvisation courses or seek the help of a qualified private instructor.

***Horn player specifics***

- Horn players must have the ability to read musical notation and understand the idiosyncrasies of Jazz vs. Symphonic notation along with the willingness to absorb and demonstrate new concepts. The understanding of and ability to play all 12 major scales (and later, mixolydian and dorian) along with the corresponding 7<sup>th</sup> chords will be helpful alongside basic (and, in some cases extended) instrumental technique.

***Rhythm Section player specifics***

- Keyboardists, Guitarists, and Bassists must have the ability to read musical notation (not guitar tab) and understand the idiosyncrasies of Jazz vs. Symphonic notation as well as jazz chord notation (e.g. C-7, F7, Bb maj.7).
- Drummers and auxiliary percussionists should be familiar with various styles associated with Big Band Jazz (salsa, bossa, samba, rock, ballad, swing, etc.) in addition to having reading skills (the ability keep a steady pulse while reading and executing written cues).

**Folders:**

Students are responsible for their music. Folders with copied parts should not leave campus (but may be taken to another room within the building, Forsyth Hall for section work or personal practice). Original parts should not leave the band room (Forsyth 115) at any time. If you lose any original parts, you are responsible to replace them through repurchase online and/or hand copying from the score. All folders must be stored in the cabinet labeled "Jazz Band". If a student is going to be absent for any reason, he/she must take responsibility to insure his/her music folder is in the band room for sub-use during the missed rehearsal.

**Music and Materials:** All music will be provided. Students should provide for their own instrument as well as other equipment such as reeds, mutes, strings, cables, sticks, mallets, and brushes. Students needing/using school-owned instruments are responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and upkeep of these instruments (swabbing, cleaning, lubricating, etc.).

### **Course Objectives:**

- Students will actively participate in a performance-oriented musical ensemble that will specialize primarily in Jazz and popular musical idioms from various time periods.
- The ensemble will build a presentable musical repertoire and perform it in a venue that will be accessible to the general public.
- Students will develop a systematic process of troubleshooting and problem-solving within a musical context during the ensemble rehearsal.
- Students will demonstrate an appreciation of the artistic component of musical performance through the analysis and application of appropriate interpretive elements.
- The class will engage in critique of rehearsals and performances as part of an on-going development of musical aural awareness.

### **Class Schedule and additional requirements:**

This class calls for approximately 1.5 hours of class time twice per week (3 hrs total). In addition, 8.75 DHR hours are required outside of regularly scheduled class time.

#### ***DHR time is accomplished through:***

- Concert participation (3 hours for each concert and sound check/rehearsal prior)
- Volunteer Hours are required each semester
  - Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board (rm 115)
  - Sign-up in left column for a specific task
  - After completion of the task, sign in the right column to confirm the task was completed.
  - One volunteer slot serves as as 2 hours
- Section Rehearsals which will occur outside of our Monday/Wednesday time slot and should be organized by each section. (covering the remaining minimum time)

#### **Required Concert Participation:**

The ensemble will be performing on the following dates:

- March 13, 2020 at 7:30 pm in Newman Auditorium (arrive prior to 6 pm rehearsal)
- May 8, 2020 at 7:30 pm in Newman Auditorium (arrive prior to 6 pm rehearsal)

***Attendance at required concerts is mandatory. An unexcused absence from a concert will result in a failing grade for the semester.***

#### **Additional Performance Information:**

Concert "Call" (arrival) time:

- "Call" time for each performance is 1 hour and 30 minutes prior to each performance. Students having issues with arriving at the appropriate time should contact the instructor in advance of the concert date.

Performance Dress:

- Men: black pants, black dress shirt
- Women: black dress (or skirt) or pants and shirt

#### **Attendance Grading:**

Rehearsal Absences:

*Members of the SRJC Jazz Ensemble are expected to attend ALL rehearsals on time and prepared.*

Grading for the course is based upon attendance and active participation at all rehearsals

- ***Active participation:*** playing your instrument competently, showing ongoing improvement, and producing sounds that correspond to what is notated in parts (with pitch accuracy, dynamics, articulation, style, and correct rhythm), attentive listening, not talking while instruction is being given, etc.
- Students should inform the instructor PRIOR to any legitimate absence.
- ***Legitimate Absence:*** Death in the Immediate Family, Car Wreck, Extreme Illness (persistent cough, vomiting, high fever, etc.)
- ***Non-Legitimate Absence:*** Other school requirements (homework or club meetings), Dr. or Dentist appointments, Social Engagements, Concert Tickets, Work Scheduling. Etc.

- Regular and timely presence at all rehearsals and performances as well as active engagement instills trust and confidence among your colleagues (and with the instructor) and is absolutely essential.

**Punctuality:**

Class begins at 3:00pm. Students should arrive 10-15 minutes early to warm-up and tune. If there is a schedule conflict, contact the instructor prior to the issue. Anyone not ready to play at the 3:00pm downbeat will be considered tardy. This is taken into account during the grading process and may be subtracted from total positive attendance hours.

**Cell Phone policy:** No cell phone use permitted during class unless it is an emergency. This includes texting, calling, and using Internet or apps on phone. Please turn off or silence cell phones prior to rehearsal. The use of cell phones during class (including text messaging) will not be tolerated. If there is a genuine emergency call, please have someone call the Music office at (707) 527-4249 and the office assistant or secretary may contact you during class.

***The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as needed.***

**Dropping a Course or Withdrawing from the College:**

Students who are unable to complete a course carry the responsibility to withdraw themselves formally from the course. Students who drop a course or withdraw from the College before the semester deadline will receive a "W" on their transcripts for each course dropped. **See [www.santarosa.edu](http://www.santarosa.edu) to find:**

- last day to drop the course without a grade appearing on the student's transcripts.
- last day to drop the course with a grade of "W". Failure to drop by this date will result in an "F".

**Emergency Evacuation Plan**

In the event of an emergency during class that requires evacuation of the building, please leave the class immediately, but calmly. Our class will meet outside the rear exit door, between the Burbank accessibility lot and the stadium track to make sure everyone got out of the building safely and to receive further instructions. If you are a student with a disability who may need assistance in an evacuation, please see me during my office hours as soon as possible so we can discuss an evacuation plan.

**ADA Compliance:**

If you need disability related accommodations for this class, such as a note taker, test taking services, special furniture, etc., please provide the Authorization for Academic Accommodations (AAA letter) from the Disability Resources Department (DRD) to the instructor as soon as possible. You may also speak with the instructor privately during office hours about your accommodations. If you have not received authorization from DRD, it is recommended that you contact them directly. DRD is located in Analy Village on the Santa Rosa campus, and Jacobs Hall on the Petaluma Campus.