Syllabus | MULB 1808-509
9:00 Lab Band

Instructor: Garrett Wingfield
Class Location: Lab East
Office: Bain 210
Phone: 469-525-8722
Email: garrettwingfield@my.unt.edu

Course Description

This course is designed to teach the fundamental concepts of playing/performing in a large jazz ensemble. These include, but are not limited to:

- Sight reading skills and techniques
- Stylistic accuracy/authenticity
- Improvisational skills
- Aural skills (both individual/section)
- The history of the big band tradition
- Section playing and lead playing
- Ensemble tuning/blending skills
- Professional practices/behaviors

Expectations

All ensemble members are expected to attend rehearsal and be completely set up and ready to go by 7pm. Saxophones are expected to have any doubles required of them in the repertoire. Trumpets and trombones are expected to always have all mutes (bucket, cup, plunger, straight, harmon, etc.) required of them in the repertoire. Trumpets are expected to bring flugelhorns. Rhythm section is expected to bring any equipment required in the repertoire, including electric bass.

Sectionals are required of each section (including the two rhythm sections) once a week. The section leaders will lead these sectionals and notify the director of their meeting times. The director may check in on sectionals unannounced.

Students are expected to listen to the repertoire outside of rehearsal in order to more fully understand the music and to have a better model for performance. Students are also expected to practice their individual parts and solos outside of rehearsal so that when the group meets the focus can be on ensemble issues.
Attendance Policy

All rehearsals, dress rehearsals, sectionals, performances, and other scheduled events are required. Performances for the spring semester are as follows:

February 25th, 9:00 PM: Gateway Center Performance #1
April 25th, 1:00 PM: Lab Band Madness @ Denton Arts and Jazz Festival
April 29th, 9:00 PM: Gateway Center Performance #2

Failure to attend any performances will result in a failing grade.

Students are allowed to sub out of rehearsals only if they absolutely must do so, and are limited to FOUR (4) substitutions before their grade is lowered half a letter grade. Extenuating circumstances and dire situations, at the discretion of the director, are exempt from this, but a sub is still required. Substitutes must be given the music in advance of rehearsal and be of a comparable or higher level of ability than the musician they are replacing. A student from a higher lab band is the usual standard. Get to know players in the other lab bands on your instrument so that this process is easier and less frantic.

Grading Policy

Grades will be given at the discretion of the director. Consideration will be given to attendance, preparation, attitude, improvement, and punctuality. Failure to follow any of the above guidelines will result in a lowering of the student’s grade.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Any suspected case of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with UNT’s policies and procedures. These can be found at:

http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.thm

Office of Disability

University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information, go to http://www.unt.edu/oda or call 940-565-4323.

Classroom Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum
at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The code can be found at www.unt/edu/crsrr