

## **MUJS 4720 Jazz Studies Recital Capstone**

Division of Jazz Studies

College of Music

University of North Texas

Syllabus Spring 2016

3 Semester Hours

Meeting for academic component: Friday 11-11:50 a.m., room 282

Instructors: Fred Hamilton and John Murphy

### **CORE CURRICULUM**

This course is an important component of UNT's Core Curriculum. This course is related to the category of **Creative Arts** and will focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. This capstone experience focuses on *the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination* because effective recital preparation depends on your having appreciated and analyzed a wide range of musical works, culminating in the choice of the works of the program and their in-depth study guided by the instructor. This capstone experience involves *the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enables critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of arts* because effective recital preparation includes extensive communication about the critical interpretation of artistic expression in the private lessons that precede the recital, especially since jazz performance practice allows performers a great deal of freedom to make interpretive choices. This work culminates in the recital, in which you will present a synthesis of the preceding critical interpretation through the medium of musical performance.

As an integral part of the core curriculum, while engaging in this course you will develop and demonstrate the core objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Teamwork, and Social Responsibility.

**Critical Thinking Skills** – including creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Effective recital performance depends on the skills of creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis. You will prepare to perform the composed portion of the composition and then improvise on it. Improvisation depends on your ability to think creatively and innovate on a moment-to-moment level. These skills are also developed over the course of the semester as you learn the compositions and develop improvisational strategies. You will do inquiry and analysis guided by the instructor as you learn about the genesis of the composition and analyze its structure using the skills of music theory and analysis you have developed through four years of study.

**Communication Skills** – including effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. You will develop, interpret,

and express your ideas through written program notes, oral commentary about the compositions on the program during the performance, and the group's visual presentation on stage. These skills are also developed during the lessons and rehearsals that precede the recital performance itself. While music is a nonverbal art, the preparation of musical performances requires a high degree of communication.

**Teamwork** – including the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. You will consider different points of view and work effectively with others to support the shared goal of effective performance. Jazz performance practice allows performers a high degree of choice over how the composition will be arranged and improvised on. The rehearsal process includes many opportunities for teamwork as you choose and prepare repertoire with the guidance of the instructor.

**Social Responsibility** – including intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. You will develop intercultural competence as you form a performance group from among our diverse jazz studies student population and as you learn about the many world music traditions that jazz musicians have drawn on. You will develop knowledge of civic responsibility by preparing your performance with the audience in mind. This includes the audience for your senior recital and extends to include thinking of all of your musical study at UNT as preparation for engaging with audiences and being part of a musical community after you complete your studies.

### **This Document**

This document serves as the syllabus for the Senior Recital Capstone Course MUJS 4720. This course includes applied lessons in the semester during which the recital will be given, the recital itself, and classroom meetings to accomplish the academic goals of the capstone. Applied instructors may supplement the requirements in this syllabus as long as the requirements in this syllabus are preserved.

### **Grading**

Grading will be completed in consultation with your major/applied professor. Your grade will be a combination of four primary elements within the class.

70%: Recital performance, lesson preparation, studio class/departmental attendance

10%: Ethics Project

10% Program Notes

10%: Video

Grades of Incomplete (I) are only given during the last few weeks of the semester to students in the most select of circumstances (such as sudden illness or family emergency) to students who are passing in the course at that time. Please see me if you have questions.

If you have an established disability as defined by the Americans with Disability Act, and would like to request accommodation, please see me before the second week of class begins.

### **Part I Academic component**

Weekly class meetings during weeks 1-8 of the semester will be focused on preparing for the following assignments. Attendance is required at all classroom meetings.

**Ethics Assignment:** We will discuss copyright law, labor law, contracts, music unions, and ethical implications pertaining to professional behavior in the music profession. Students will write an essay that discusses an ethics case study.

#### **Program Notes Assignment:**

We will study how to write effective program notes. You will prepare program notes for your recital. Due date is two weeks before your recital. You'll get them back in time to make revisions before the recital. Notes must be distributed at your recital.

**Video Assignment:** The student will make a 3-minute video that demonstrates the speaking and technology skills necessary to effectively handle a short promotional video or a video job interview.

### **Part II The Jazz Studies Senior Recital**

#### **Prerequisites**

A senior recital is required of all candidates for the Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies degree. In order to be eligible, candidates must successfully complete either the Jazz Studies Concentration Exam (for Performance Emphasis) or the Jazz Arranging Proficiency Exam (for the Arranging Emphasis). Jazz Studies drum set performance majors must pass all required drum set and percussion proficiency barriers before scheduling a Jazz Studies senior recital.

#### **Procedures**

Once a candidate has passed the JSCE he or she may begin planning a recital.

The following steps are required:

1. Submit the form that certifies that all requirements have been met for the recital.
2. Receive the class number from the Jazz Studies administrative assistant and register for this course.
3. Attend the recital orientation meeting, which occurs during a class meeting of this course.
4. All undergraduate performance recitals must be shared by two recital candidates
5. If you have picked out a recital partner, indicate that at the recital orientation meeting. If you do not have a partner, notify the recital coordinator before the recital orientation meeting.

6. Your recital advisor is your applied instructor. Once you have found a recital partner, consult with both advisors about the program (see below for more on the program) and then have the recital advising form signed by both your applied instructor and your recital partner's recital advisor.
7. Schedule the recital and the dress recital using the guidelines distributed at the recital orientation meeting. Jazz recitals may only be presented Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m. in Kenton Hall. Recitals cannot conflict with other Jazz Studies performances or other College of Music performances of a similar nature.
8. Your applied lessons this semester are intended to help you prepare for your recital.

### **Recital Committee**

In addition to your advisors, one other faculty member will serve on your committee. This faculty member will communicate his or her evaluation to your applied instructor. A copy of the Recital Advisement Form will be kept by your advisor after your final meeting and circulated by your advisor for committee signatures after your recital.

### **Program and Recital Performance**

The responsibility to ensure that the recital is carried out within the guidelines of the Jazz Studies Division is shared among the students who are sharing the recital and their advisors. The recital content will be chosen in consultation with the recital advisors and should reflect a variety of current and historical styles. You will need the signature of both advisors on the recital advisement form for final approval before the recital. The recital will emphasize improvisation vehicles from the standard jazz repertoire. It should last between 45 and 60 minutes. Guitarist and Pianists must include one solo number. All others must include either a solo or duo number. The performance area should be neat and attractive.

### **Memorization requirement**

Candidates must perform from memory. Student performers other than the two candidates may read music.

### **Faculty performance on recitals**

Only students may perform on undergraduate degree recitals. Members of the faculty, including professors, lecturers, and adjunct instructors, may not perform on degree recitals.

### **Recording and Sound**

A recording of the recital must be made, either by the UNT College of Music Recording Services or a service contracted by the students. It is the candidates' responsibility to submit a recording to each of the recital advisors. If Jazz Studies division sound reinforcement equipment is used, it must be used under the supervision of the recital advisors.

**Printed Programs**

Printed recital programs are required. Proofs are to be submitted to the College of Music program office three weeks before the recital.

**Dress**

Concert attire should meet professional expectations that are appropriate for a final degree recital. Consult with the advisors in advance on this matter.

**Assessment:** The senior recital is to be graded by the applied instructor in collaboration with a committee of faculty from the Jazz Studies Division. The reviewing faculty will assess the performance with a four-point rubric.

**Lessons**

The College of Music has established 13 as the normal number of lessons per semester, and 8 as the minimum number of lessons a student must attend to receive a passing grade. Therefore, students who have missed a total of six lessons, either excused or unexcused, will be asked to drop lessons for the semester.

Lessons missed by the student, for whatever reason, are made up at the discretion of the teacher. In general, if students must miss lessons for any reason, the teacher should be notified by phone, e-mail, or by a note in the teacher's mailbox. Lessons missed by the teacher are to be made up, and in a timely manner. Students who feel that their teachers are missing an excessive number of lessons, or that make-ups are not being offered in a timely manner, should contact the chair immediately.

If two lessons are missed without notification, the student will receive a "Notice of Unsatisfactory Progress" report. If an additional lesson is missed without notification, the student will be dropped with a WF.

Lessons will generally be 50 minutes in length.

**Departmentals**

Departmentals will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor. While individual attendance policies will vary, students should not ask to be excused from these classes, as they are considered an important part of applied music instruction.

**Recital Attendance**

Attendance at weekly departmental recitals is mandatory for all students in Jazz Studies who are taking applied lessons. More than two unexcused absences will result in automatic lowering of the semester grade. At the beginning of each long semester, each teacher is responsible for conveying this requirement to each of his or her students. Students who have a regular conflict at this hour may be excused if their teacher provides a written excuse to the departmental coordinator and/or area coordinator.

**Jury Grading**

Juries are graded on a 10 point or letter-grading scale, with 10 or A+ being the highest possible grade. All faculty decisions concerning jury grades are final.

**Attendance**

Attendance policies will be set by the individual applied instructors in the syllabus that supplements this common capstone syllabus.

**Practice rooms**

Practice room arrangements are made through the Copy Room (room 291).

**Ethical conduct**

Students are expected to abide by the UNT "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" found under "students with disabilities." All sections of applied study comply with the Guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For completed information, see:

[http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT\\_Policy/volume3/18\\_1\\_14.html](http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume3/18_1_14.html)

**Registration codes**

All sections of Senior Recital Capstone Course require permission of the Division of Jazz Studies. Students who are eligible to enroll will be given the four or five digit class number for the appropriate course and section. These numbers should only be distributed by individual teachers, advisors, and the Division Administrative Assistant. Students who register without permission will be dropped by the Jazz Studies Division.