

MUJS 1131.507 Fundamentals of Vocal Jazz Performance

Mon-Wed 2:00 – 2:50 p.m. (Rm. 292)

Instructor: Jennifer Barnes

E-mail: Jennifer.barnes@unt.edu

Cell Phone (emergency only): (661) 713-0260

Office: MU 346

Fundamentals of Vocal Jazz Performance is an introductory course focusing on the essential elements required of a jazz singer, especially of the vocal major in the Jazz Studies program at the University of North Texas. These include:

- Standard jazz repertoire and interpretation (how and to whom to listen)
- How to write an acceptable lead sheets
- The use of Finale music notation software to create lead sheets and lyric sheets to create or expand a “book” of your repertoire
- Learn to accompany yourself with jazz chords from a lead sheet
- Learning to schedule yourself and your work efficiently
- Communication skills – verbal and behavioral
- Developing skills in ear training as a pre-cursor to improvising through chord changes
- Practice routines to build your fluency in all of the above
- The history of jazz singing and most influential/important artists

Attendance and Grading You are expected to be at every class, on time, and to complete assignments according to instructions on the syllabus and given in class. Consistent tardiness will result in the lowering of your grade. Two absences (excused or unexcused) are permitted for the semester. Plan accordingly. Formal grading will include homework assignments and in-class performances, as well as class participation. Final grade will be an average of weekly grades and Final Exam.

You are expected to take notes, to keep a notebook for your materials, and to communicate appropriately.

You will learn new songs, and sing them in class, on mic, for comments. For these, you will prepare lead sheets according to UNT standards. You will learn to give supportive feedback to others as they perform.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Jessica Curran	Carleigh Reese	James Angry
Juan Pablo DLMM	Byron Myers	Chandler Dunn
Madi Metcalf	Morgan Wallace	

Class Schedule:

Day	Date	Class Content	Performing Group
WEEK 1			
Wed	8/28	Introduction to class materials; listening test	0
WEEK 2			
Mon	9/2	Labor Day – no class	0
Wed	9/4	Review of listening test, part 1. Artists & repertoire – lists for reference.	0
WEEK 3			
Mon	9/9	Review of listening test, part 2.	0
Wed	9/11	Review of listening test, part 3. Choosing the proper keys & finding your speaking register.	0
WEEK 4			
Mon	9/16	Checking keys for ballads; Creative listening: the ballad	0
Wed	9/18	Creative listening: ballads	1 – Ballad
WEEK 5			
Mon	9/23	Creative listening: Swing	2 – Ballad
Wed	9/25	Creative listening: Swing pt. 2	3 – Ballad
WEEK 6			
Mon	9/30	How to write lead sheets properly; analyzing song forms from lead sheets	1 – Swing
Wed	10/2	Finale software, part 1	2 – Swing
WEEK 7			
Mon	10/7	Finale software, part 2	3 – Swing
Wed	10/9	Finale software, part 3	0
WEEK 8			
Mon	10/14	Finale software, part 4	0
Wed	10/16	Midterm exam; Creative listening to straight-8 th /Brazilian, part 1	0
WEEK 9			
Mon	10/21	Mid-term Review; Creative listening to straight-8 th /Brazilian, part 2	0
Wed	10/23	Brazilian style basics; Counting off effectively in all styles	3 – Brazilian

WEEK 10			
Mon	10/28	Countoff “quiz”; Transcribing/singing along	2 – Brazil
Wed	10/30	Keyboard “skeletons”; swing tune #2	1 – Brazil
WEEK 11			
Mon	11/4	Turn in keyboard skeletons for tune #2	3 – Swing 2
Wed	11/6	Keyboard skeleton performance test	2 – Swing 2
WEEK 12			
Mon	11/11	Transcriptions/sing-along #1 due	ALL
Wed	11/13	“Chord surfing”	1 – Swing 2
WEEK 12			
Mon	11/18	Surfing, pt. 2	2 – Choice
Wed	11/20	Surfing quiz	3 – Choice
WEEK 13			
Mon	11/25	Prep for transcription/sing-along #2	1 - Choice
Wed	11/27	“Mock” final exam; review	0
WEEK 14			
Mon	12/2	FINAL EXAM/PERFORMANCE	Lottery – be ready!
Wed	12/4	FINAL EXAM/PERFORMANCE	Lottery – be ready!
WEEK 14			
TBD	TBD	Individual appointments scheduled to review final exam and return “book”	

Office of Disability Accommodation

The 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 see the

Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (Undergraduates)

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (Graduates)

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

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 the University Policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of "F" in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. You will find the policy and procedures at: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>.

Student Behavior in the Classroom

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 university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at: www.unt.edu/csrr.