
West End

MULB 1820/5174

M/W 5:00 - 6:50 PM MU263 (Lab East)

Lily Alter, Director: 708-613-1523

LilyAlter@my.unt.edu

Parker Haley, Assistant Director: 314-229-5873

parkerhaley@my.unt.edu

Office Hours By Appointment

Spring 2024

Objectives:

While enrolled in this class, students will:

1. Develop technical proficiency within the context of the vocal jazz ensemble.
2. Expand stylistic knowledge of the vocal jazz idiom.
3. Understand and appreciate the rich and varied traditions of vocal jazz ensemble literature.
4. Cultivate skills of professionalism within a performing ensemble.

Students Expectations:

By participating in this class, students are committing to:

1. Arriving ON TIME, warmed up, and equipped to all rehearsals and performances.
 - Vocalists are expected to arrive **no later** than 4:55 PM in order to complete set-up of sound equipment. Rehearsals will start at 5:05 PM.
2. Practicing outside of scheduled rehearsals to master individual parts.
3. Rehearsing with patience, persistence, honesty, sincerity, courage, and kindness.
4. Maintaining and using all ensemble equipment responsibly, including audio equipment, music, and folder (there is a \$40 replacement fee for lost or damaged folders).

Director Expectations:

Throughout the course of this class, students can expect the directors to:

1. Treat each student with dignity and respect.
2. Hold each student accountable to a high standard of excellence.
3. Be prepared for rehearsals and exercise musical leadership.
4. Demonstrate commitment to the music and the ensemble, as well as respect for the jazz idiom.

Performance Policy:

Ensemble performances should be considered required and non-negotiable commitments. **Missed performances will result in an automatic 'C' for the semester** unless the student must miss due to an unavoidable emergency. Official call times will be announced in advance of the performance. Once officially announced by the director, these call times should be considered non-negotiable as well.

Performance attire: West End performs in **KELLY GREEN and BLACK** for formal concerts, and dressy casual for Syndicate performances. Have fun with green and black accents, but nothing too over the top. If you are unsure of whether or not your attire will fit the occasion, ask one of the directors for guidance.

Attendance Policy:

If you are late to rehearsal, you will receive 50% for your attendance grade that day. If you know that you will miss a given rehearsal due to an unavoidable conflict, (i.e.- family emergency/medical emergency, funeral) you must communicate that need via email to **BOTH DIRECTORS** no less than **24 hours in advance** of the rehearsal. If you need to stay home because of illness, you must communicate that need via email (again, to both directors!) no less than **4 hours in advance** of the rehearsal. In the event of an emergency, please call or text as soon as is practical. If you establish a pattern of tardiness or absence, you will meet with one or both of the directors and Professor Barnes outside of rehearsal to discuss your continued enrollment in the ensemble.

Rhythm section players: if you must be absent, you are responsible for finding a substitute (this is NOT to be used for anything other than excused absences described above and must be communicated to the director ahead of time). Your substitute must be of equal or superior skill, and **you are also responsible for providing them with all music and any**

other materials required for the rehearsal.

Communication Platforms

1. **Canvas** - All assignments, homework, recordings and other materials will be communicated through our West End Canvas page. Make sure your notifications are turned on so that you see them **at least daily**.
2. **Email** – This will be the primary form of communication throughout this class if you have questions, concerns, or otherwise need to reach us.
3. **Cell Phone** – Make sure you have the Directors' phone numbers saved in your phone. However, only text in the case of a last minute, unavoidable conflict (sudden sickness, family emergency, etc.).

Grading Policy:

Grading is fairly straightforward in this class. You will have one assignment to be completed at 9 pm each Sunday night before our Monday rehearsal. Each assignment is worth 5 points. Your homework grade is 25% of your final grade. Participation points are to be earned by meeting all four of the student expectations stated at the beginning of the syllabus. Participation is worth 50% of your grade. Attendance is worth 25% of your grade. Final marks for the course will be a reflection of points earned as a percentage of the total possible points.

Required Dates/Performances:

Date	Event
3/5	Vocal Jazz Night at the University Union Syndicate 7-11:30 pm.
3/29	West End Nooner at the University Union Syndicate call 11:00 am.
4/5	Vocal Jazz Concert in Lab West setup TBD, call 5:30 pm. West End performs at 6:30 pm.

Additional Student Resources

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT 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 Dean of Students 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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

DIVERSITY AND BELONGING

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: [Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Link: <https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion>

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Spring 2024

See: [Spring 2024 Academic Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide.html>

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2024

See above

Financial Aid and 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 hours registered. 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.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

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. It is recommended that 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 before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

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. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. 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. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Issues](#)

Link: <https://speakout.unt.edu>.

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>