

UNT Latin Jazz Lab Band

MULB 1821.500

MULB 5174.520

Mon./Tues./Wed./Thurs. - 12:00–12:50 pm

Lab Band West (MU 282)

Semester: Spring 2026

Instructor: José M. Aponte

Email: Jose.Aponte@unt.edu

Office Hours: By appointment. Bain Hall 201

Course Purpose: To introduce students to the Latin American popular music repertoire using the jazz idiom as the main vehicle for musical and improvisational expression. The knowledge gained through course rehearsals, research, and live performances will provide students with a solid foundation in Latin American Jazz language. This new understanding will enhance students' musical skills as listeners, jazz performers, composers, jazz arrangers, and jazz educators.

Rehearsal and Performance Attendance Policy:

1. Since all information and practical experience will be given and presented in class, attendance is **MANDATORY**. **Any more than two (2) absences will lower the final grade, one letter grade per absence. The student will be responsible for the material covered in rehearsal during their absence.**
2. **It is essential to arrive on time for class and rehearsals.** Making good use of our limited weekly time is crucial. **Downbeat time is noon.** Be sure to account for set-up time for each rehearsal. Students who consistently arrive late without a valid reason will face penalties, including a **lowered final grade.**

3. **If a chair substitute is needed**, a text or email notification must be sent at least 24 hours before the rehearsal day. The Latin Jazz Lab members are responsible for providing a suitable substitute. No substitutes will be allowed for concerts, performances, or **any rehearsal within one week of a concert or performance.**
4. Concert and performance times are subject to sudden changes. Dress rehearsals will take up to three (3) hours; scheduling **other activities on the same day of the rehearsal or performance is not recommended.**
5. **Failure to attend or participate in the semester's final concert, dress rehearsal, or any other public or private performance will result in a failing grade.**

Ways of Communication:

1. Email: **Only a UNT email address will be accepted.**
2. **GroupMe Chat Service - Scan the QR code in the module section.**
3. All Lab members must complete this task by the beginning of **week 1 (Tuesday, January 13, 2026).**
4. **The student is expected to attend any unexpected task, activity, or performance that might be announced through the chat service or UNT email, ensuring they stay informed and engaged.**

Band Book and Band Property Policy:

1. The student is responsible for the custody and care of the Latin Jazz Lab Band Book and all its content. If any loss or damage occurs to the book, written parts, or class material, it will be the responsibility of the student and the section leader in charge of those materials to cover the replacement cost of \$100.
2. **Failure to cover the cost of the lost or damaged materials will result in a failing semester grade.**
3. The student is responsible for the custody and care of any Latin Jazz Lab Band /UNT Jazz Studies Division property, especially instruments, bass/guitar amplifiers, and other equipment (including music stands) used for rehearsals or performances. If any loss or damage occurs to the equipment mentioned above, it will be the responsibility of the student and the section leader in charge of those materials to cover the cost of replacement.

Rehearsal Room Use Policy:

1. All the lab members are expected to arrive at 11:50 am to organize the hall for rehearsal. There will be a class before and after our rehearsal. The 10 minutes before setup and after cleanup are crucial for keeping the schedule on track.
2. **The rhythm section will organize all the Latin Jazz percussion equipment inside the storage area and lock the door when finished. The storage door should be kept closed when not in use.**
3. Once all chores are done, please check the room for any trash to be collected and put in the garbage can as you leave.

Performance Dress Code: Depending on the situation, professional performance attire or a dark color suit and tie is an absolute requirement. Your performance attire clearly communicates your commitment and dedication to your craft and reflects your professionalism. Please adhere to this requirement to ensure your final grade is maintained.

Hearing Protection is Required for this Course:

Hearing protection is **Highly Recommended** for every student registered. The [UNT Speech and Hearing Center](#) Links to an external site. will provide a hearing test to every enrolled UNT student for a flat fee of \$25. In addition, “musician’s ear plugs” can be purchased at the clinic for around \$200. The College of Music provides foam ear plugs at no charge; students can pick these up from the repair shop in the Music Annex, room 106.

SPOT Feedback:

We invite all class and ensemble members to share their feedback about this course and its instructor at the end of the semester. Your opinions are truly valuable to us, faculty. They help us enhance our teaching and better support your learning journey, making the experience more enriching for everyone.

Course Policy on the Use of Generative AI Tools

To support your learning effectively, complete all graded assignments independently, avoiding any use of generative AI. Do not use AI tools to create content such as text, video, audio, images, code, or other materials for assignments or classroom activities. Submitting AI-generated content as your own, whether by copying, pasting, or paraphrasing, violates UNT's academic integrity policy. If you have questions about the appropriate use of generative AI in this course, please contact me via email or in person.

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)

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: [Spring Academic Calendar Information](#)

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

Semester Calendar, Spring 2026

See: [Spring Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf>

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026

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 resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

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-academic-calendar.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>

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>