





## MUCM 3550/5550 JCM

### Jazz Chamber Music

Course Syllabus **Fall 2020**

**8 week semester I and 8 week semester II**

Philip Dizack, Coordinator of JCM, Assistant Professor of Jazz Trumpet, Brad Leali, Professor of Jazz Saxophone, Lynn Seaton, Professor of Jazz Bass

**Six** Combos each led by instructors:

- Philip Dizack, Coordinator of Jazz Chamber Music, Assistant Professor of Jazz Trumpet
- Brad Leali, Professor of Jazz Saxophone,
- Lynn Seaton, Professor of Jazz Bass

Twelve or fewer Combos instructed by other faculty members or qualified graduate assistants

### **Fall 2020**

**Course Description:** The Jazz Combo program provides students with the opportunity to rehearse and perform both new and established works in the repertory of Jazz and the American songbook. The techniques of jazz improvisation, jazz style characteristics, and elements of formal jazz structure will be studied. This course is open by audition with consent of the director and preference will be given to those who passed the ICE.

**Course Objectives:** The main objective of this course is to help each participant achieve the competencies necessary to become a well-rounded, career-minded musician. The goal of the Jazz Chamber Music program at UNT is to develop poised, independent musicians who demonstrate technical competence, an understanding of styles, and a working knowledge of the literature for the small ensemble. The student, upon successful completion of the required course of study, will have developed the skills to teach themselves or others these very concepts.

**Course Requirements:** The Jazz Combos will rehearse two hours per week with the coach, and one time without the coach. The Student Coordinator of the group will act as leader during these required rehearsals. The one un-coached rehearsal will also occur between the JCM hours of 4-5 on Mondays through Fridays and have been scheduled below.

**Attendance:** Active participation at all scheduled rehearsals, performances, and specified other events is required. Rehearsals missed without prior approval, or legitimate reason will affect your

grade. If an illness occurs shortly before a rehearsal, the student must notify the Student Coordinator via phone or text. You are to find a sub to ensure the rehearsal session occurs. Keep in mind that subbing in a small group is quite different than within a Lab Band. You should always have written music in the case that you are sick, so please take concise notes for your potential sub.

**Rehearsal Preparation:** Be on time and warmed up for rehearsals and performances. Have with you all the music, necessary equipment, and a pencil for markings. Excellent preparation is expected.

**Repertoire:** The Jazz Combo will perform a variety of materials throughout the semester. These will include but not be limited to transcriptions, original works, student compositions, and standard repertoire for the ensemble.

**Combo Makeup and Formation:** Each grouping of students within Jazz Chamber Music will be comprised of a four-piece rhythm (piano, bass, guitar, drumset or percussion) and four-piece front line sections (brass, woodwinds, vocalists, strings, vibraphone). If there is not sufficient instrumental representation by enrollment to meet this standard, then alternative substitutions will be considered.

The full-time faculty who instruct the course will assign students to their Combos and make determinations of who the Student Coordinator will be as well as their mentor coaches. These decisions will be made in collaboration with studio faculty across the Division of Jazz Studies and will take lab band auditions into account. Performing in a Lab band is required to participate in Jazz Chamber Music. Only in rare cases will a student be cleared to participate in JCM without Lab Band participation. The student must petition the Division Chair and appropriate studio instructors for exceptional consideration.

**Course Learning Goals and Expectations:**

- The student will demonstrate the analytical and aural skills to actively and skillfully apply and perform the repertory of the ensemble.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the common elements and organizational patterns of music and their interaction by successfully working musical problems in performance.
- Students will demonstrate the technical skills requisite for artistic self-expression within the small jazz combo.
- Students will demonstrate the ability of self-directed learning through improved performance on ensemble music due to private practice.
- Students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills sufficient to work as a musically literate citizen in the role of a leader and collaboration with others.
- Students will demonstrate the professional ethics necessary to work in partnership with others in the ensemble.

- Students will demonstrate the ability to work professionally and collaboratively with diverse groups and individuals in the combo.
- An essential learning goal of the small jazz ensemble is to provide current and professionally accepted instruction in jazz performance and pedagogy using the medium of the “Small group or Jazz Combo.” Coaching focuses on Improvisation, musicality, and creativity.

**Educational Outcomes:** Students will demonstrate proper standards of rehearsal etiquette and successfully complete scheduled concerts throughout the semester.

**Assessment:** The following factors will be considered in awarding a final grade for each semester.

- Attendance at all rehearsals and performances
- Preparation of assigned music
- Attitude and communication

An unexcused absence from a required rehearsal will result in a lowering of the final grade.

An unexcused absence from a required performance will result in a grade of an F for the semester. No exceptions.

***GRADES:***

*The grading scale is: A = 89.5-100; B = 79.5-89.4; C = 69.5-79.4; D = 59.5-69.4;*

*F = 59.4 and below*

**Performances:** Each combo will participate in a recording session at the end of each semester with the goal to yield 30-45 minutes of music. The time spent in the studio will include the actual recording session and the mixing to provide a finished product representing the very best work possible. Recording session dates will occur the weekend of October 10, 11 for the first 8 week semester, and November 14 and 15 for the second 8 week semester.

The Instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus with proper notification.

**DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS, for Fall 2020 we will be delivering JCM in two eight-week semesters.**

**This is the rehearsal schedule**

**Six combos in Cycle 1 with the use of 4 rooms allowing the groups to rehearse with a coach twice a week and one rehearsal uncoached.**

**August 31- September 4**

**September 8 - 10**

**September 14 - 17**

**September 21 -24**

**September 28 - October 2**

**October 5 - 8**

**October 10 - 11 Recording session Combo Cycle 1**

Six combos in Cycle 2 with the use of 4 rooms allowing the groups to rehearse with a coach twice a week and one rehearsal uncoached.

October 12 - 15

October 19 - 22

October 26 - 29

November 2 - 5

November 9 -12

November 16 - 19

November 14 - 15 Recording session Combo Cycle 2

## **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/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final\\_.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf)

## **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](https://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/](https://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 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 Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](https://disability.unt.edu). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

## **UNT Policy Statement on Diversity**

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 Statement](#)

Link: [https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018\\_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub 8\\_.18.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub 8_.18.pdf)

## **2020-2021 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)**

See: [Fall Registration Guide](#)

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

### **Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2020-2021**

See: [Academic Calendar](#)

Link: <https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2020-21/calendar>

### **Final Exam Schedule**

Note: See updates on the final exam schedule at [Fall 2020 Instructional Guide](#)

See: [Final Exam Schedule](#) <https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

### **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 whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. 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>.

The counselor for music students is: Myriam Reynolds  
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311  
(940) 565-2741 [Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu](mailto:Myriam.reynolds@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. After the 12<sup>th</sup> class day, students must first submit a completed "Request to Drop" form to the Registrar's Office. The last day for a



student to drop a class in Spring, 2020 is March 30th. Information about add/drop may be found at:

See: [Add Drop](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-add-drop>

## **STUDENT RESOURCES**

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

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: [https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource\\_sheet.pdf](https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource_sheet.pdf)

### **COVID-19 impact on attendance**

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

Approved Faculty Senate 5/13/20