

JAZZ PERFORMANCE

FUNDAMENTALS FOR STRINGS I & II

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Sections

MUJS 1131-510 (6685)

MUJS 5360-002 (9530)

Meeting Time

Tuesday & Thursday, 12:45–1:35 p.m.

Location

Room MU 292

Professor

Scott Tixier • Scott.Tixier@unt.edu • Office 128

Requirements: If there are non-jazz-major string players who are grad students who want to take MUJS 1131-510 (6685) MUJS 5360-002 (9530), they can use a grad special problems number.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes: Provide students with the ability to develop their own voice with the necessary tools to become a prolific improviser and composer on a string instrument

- History
 - Listening session
 - Jazz violin history
- Technique Theory, & Aural Skills
 - Jazz vocabulary and phrasing
 - Ear training, intervals and chords identification
 - Bow and left-hand techniques
 - Analyze and solo development
- Building Repertoire
 - Jazz Standards
 - Exploring Alternative Styles, Popular and Innovative Music
 - Accompaniment on a string instrument
 - Composing your own music
- Electric Side
 - Electric violins, electro acoustic and acoustic instruments
 - Tone Control and Amplification
 - EQ
 - Use of effects

Rhythm Section and Performance Context

Depending on availability, the class will be assisted by a rhythm section consisting of piano, double bass, and drums. Students will have opportunities to apply technical, theoretical, and vocabulary-based exercises in a live performance context. Class activities may include transposition exercises, jazz vocabulary and phrasing, listening and analysis, rhythmic interaction, interplay, improvisation, and the practical application of concepts studied in class.

Required Materials:

- Music Staff Paper with 3 holes punched
- Pencil
- 3-ring binder
- Journal / Diary to report and take notes during live performances
- The Jazz Theory Book by Mark Levine
- Music History

No education is complete without the foundations of those that implemented technique before us. It is imperative for each student to have an immediate and working knowledge of the string players that created the foundation and evolution of our tutelage. I dedicate time at the beginning of each lesson to exercise the different modes of expression of jazz and improvised music. Here they can study the current and the most prominent musicians of the history of jazz and specifically jazz violin masters including Joe Venuti, Eddie South, Stuff Smith, Stephane Grappelli, Ray Nance, Jean Luc Ponty and Regina Carter. I will compose specific listening assignments for each student that is tailored to their prior knowledge, in hopes of expanding their familiar repertoire while engaging with the context of history.

I believe it is imperative to understand the progression of jazz in history and the context that framed the music at the time and country of each specific recording. In doing so, they will develop listening and analysis skills to recognize what makes each musician unique. The students will acquire rhythmic and harmonic autonomy; work on phrasing, pulsation, tempo, ultimately making their foundation and security stronger.

- Active Listening

I encourage my students to get out of the practice room to attend live jazz concerts. Before stepping into jam session or trying new creative ideas, all students must participate in active

listening.

Each student will be required to log a diary of the at least three performances they attend. Most should be live in person, but I also encourage them to travel and if they are unable to do so, watching live streaming concerts or video recordings will be acceptable. Their notes should answer the following questions in detail: Is the band using music sheets? How do they interact with each other? Are their harmonic structures convincing? Do you notice any references in their solos? What is their intonation like? Can you name the instrument or notes that are out of tune? Are the compositional ideas complete? I also encourage my students to attend classical chamber music concerts. String technique began in the classical tradition and it is central to our understanding of how efficient tone is produced from our acoustic instruments. Lastly, I encourage students in my studio to work with one another. It is imperative that they work with each other and perform for each other regularly. Not only does it create a community within the conservatory, it builds on your performance practice. Students can work together to improve their ability and bounce creative ideas with one another

Grading Criteria

Your grade will be based on the following

Component	Weight
Attendance	60%
Playing Evaluation	20%
Assignments	20%
Final Grade: A=100 -90% B=89 -80% C=79 -70 % D=69 -60% F= under	100%

NO CELLPHONES

NO FOOD

NO DRINKS

In Class

Attendance affects your grade:

Absences are only excused for religious holidays, family emergencies (with

documentation) or student illness (with a doctor's note). You must get documentation or a doctor's note for any absence to be excused.

Being on time: At the 1st late arrival, the student could lose 5 points and 5 points per additional delayed.

On the 1st unexcused absence, you lose 10 points

Missing class for the following reasons will automatically result in the reduction of the final grade:

- Taking a gig, tour or any engagement during class time
- Leaving early
- Arguing with classmates or the professor You are excepted to respond ALL emails from your professor in a timely manner

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required at all sessions.

1\ Students should give notice if they cannot attend a lesson. Notify your professor by

making a phone call, text or email with an excuse coming from the Health Center or your

doctor within 48 hours after missing class.

2\ Failure to notify your professor will affect the final grade.

3\ The student will be allowed one excused absence per semester.

4\ Repeated tardiness will result in the reduction of the final grade. You have to be on time

like on any gig

UNT REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

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, 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. LINK: <http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity>

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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. LINK: Student Code of Conduct - <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.
LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

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

Spring Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

<http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=1228>

Final Exam Schedule

<http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring>

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 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.

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 being doing so.

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.

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

Blackboard 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 tho