

Course Syllabus: MUS 108.2 Introduction to Jazz Theory and Arranging Summer 2023 9:00am-5:00pm Foy Hall, Hurd Campus @ Moravian University	Instructor: Dr. Neil Wetzel Office phone: (610) 861-1621 Email: wetzeln@moravian.edu Cell: 267-471-6852
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Course Description

Introduction to Jazz Theory and Arranging is a ½ unit (2 credit) course that explores the basics of jazz music theory, composing and arranging. Students will take this course in conjunction with enrollment in the “Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian.”

Goals of the Course

In this course the student will:

- Review music theory elements and utilize jazz harmonies and scales.
- Compose 2 jazz compositions in varying forms
- Arrange a jazz selection for small jazz ensemble
- Study and identify historically pertinent jazz composers and arrangers (past and contemporary)
- Record student’s musical (jazz) works
- Write about a historically important and influential jazz composer/arranger

Required Texts:

- *Alfred’s Essentials of Jazz Theory, Complete 1-3; Book & CD* by Shelly Berg
- Select Jamey Aebersold CD/Book sets from the possible list:
 - Volume 40, *Round Midnight*. Jamey Aebersold, 1992.
 - Volume 65, *Four and More*. Jamey Aebersold, 2000.
 - Volume 22 *Favorite Standards*. Jamey Aebersold, 1999.
 - Volume 48 *Duke Ellington*. Jamey Aebersold, 1999.

Attendance:

- Attendance at all classes and seminars is mandatory. Sessions missed but accompanied by a physician’s note will be considered an “excused absence.”
- Showing up 10 minutes past the scheduled start of the assigned meeting time will be counted as an unexcused absence.

Grading:

- Student will be graded on:
 - Attendance and class participation (20%)
 - Preparedness of assigned reading, writing and projects.
 - Assignments from text (*Alfred’s Essentials of Jazz Theory*) (10%)
 - New Jazz Composition I (10%)
 - New Jazz Composition II (10%)
 - Arrangement for jazz ensemble (10%)
 - Jazz Listening Quiz (10%)
 - Jazz Recording (10%)
 - Jazz Arranger/Composer Research Paper (20%)

Assignments:

- Complete assigned Units (reading and completing the Review Homework pages) from assigned text (*Alfred's Essentials of Jazz Theory*)
 - Units 1 & 2 in the week previous to the workshop
 - Units 3 & 4 during the week of classes/on-campus
 - Units 5 & 6 the week following classes/on-campus
- Compose 2 new jazz works:
 - Create a new “blues-based” composition (due end of week of classes done while on-campus):
 - In typical lead-sheet fashion
 - using music notation software
 - based on the 12 bar blues form with basic harmonic substitutions
 - With a melody that is new and original
 - Compose a new jazz composition (due one week after the last day of classes completed off-campus):
 - In typical lead-sheet fashion
 - using music notation software
- Arrange a jazz tune (due one week after the last day of on-campus classes) that meets the following criteria:
 - Is at least 16 measures long
 - Includes at least one transposing instrument.
 - Includes 2 rhythm instruments and includes a minimum of 4 instruments total.
 - Includes a score and individual parts (digital or hand-written)
- Students will identify historically pertinent jazz compositions and arrangements by completing a “drop-the-needle” exam (due end of week of classes while on-campus) including pre-determined jazz recordings by past and contemporary jazz arrangers and composers including:
 - Jelly Roll Morton
 - Duke Ellington
 - Charlie Parker
 - Charles Mingus
 - Ornette Coleman
 - Wayne Shorter
 - Gil Evans
 - Maria Schneider
 - Gordon Goodwin
- Record one of the student’s musical works created during the course (completed during the week of classes while on-campus); students will attend lectures, discussion, and sit “behind the mixing board” while exploring the basics of sound recording:
 - Student will create a recording of one of his/her composition or arrangement.
 - The students will perform on the recording as part of the featured ensemble.
- Student will write a research paper (due two weeks after on-campus class meetings end) on one of the following great jazz composers/arrangers (students’ choice):
 - Jelly Roll Morton
 - Duke Ellington
 - Charlie Parker
 - Charles Mingus
 - Ornette Coleman
 - Wayne Shorter
 - Maria Schneider
 - Gordon Goodwin

Content:

1st Week (Previous to the Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian classes and completed off-campus)

- Preparation of assigned music/compositions:
 - Complete assigned Units (reading and completing the Review Homework pages) from assigned text (*Alfred's Essentials of Jazz Theory*)
 - Units 1 & 2 review pages completed
- Prepare instructor selected jazz tunes from the Jamey Aebersold book/CD series. These will be performed during the first day of classes (on-campus).

2nd Week (During the 5 days of course meetings on campus) students will attend the following session/classes as part of the Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian (sample schedule copied below):

- Complete Units 3 & 4 during from the text (*Alfred's Essentials of Jazz Theory*)
- Jazz Improvisation Class and Workshop
- Jazz Theory for Composers
- Jazz Arranging for Small and Large Groups (including two private lessons in arranging/composing)
- Jazz History/Listening Class
- Jazz Composition
- Ensemble Rehearsals
 - Big Band (large groups)
 - Combo (small groups)
- Introduction to Theory and Arranging Seminar

TENTATIVE HOURS/SCHEDULE

9:15-10:35 Recording Techniques Class	9:15-10:35 Jazz History and Listening Class	9:15-10:35 Recording Techniques Class	9:15-10:35 Jazz Composing & Arranging Class	9:15-10:35 Piano Techniques Class
10:40-noon Jazz Theory/Improv Class	10:40-noon Jazz Composing & Arranging Class	10:40-noon Jazz Theory/Improv Class	10:40-noon Jazz History and Listening Class	10:40-noon Recording Techniques Class
1:00-2:20 Combo Rehearsal Laboratory	1:00-2:20 Combo Rehearsal Laboratory	1:00-2:20 Combo Rehearsal Laboratory	1:00-2:20 Combo Rehearsal Laboratory	1:00-2:20 Combo Rehearsal Laboratory
3:00-4:00 Big Band Rehearsal	3:00-4:00 Big Band Rehearsal	3:00-4:00 Big Band Rehearsal	3:00-4:00 Big Band Rehearsal	3:00-4:00 Big Band Rehearsal
5:00-6:00 Jazz Theory and Arranging Seminar	5:00-6:00 Jazz Theory and Arranging Seminar	5:00-6:00 Jazz Theory and Arranging Seminar	5:00-6:00 Jazz Theory and Arranging Seminar	5:00-6:00 Jazz Theory and Arranging Seminar

3rd Week (one week following the Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian: off-campus)

- Student will do research on selected jazz arranger/composer for research project
- Complete Units 5 & 6 readings and assignments from text *Alfred's Essentials of Jazz Theory*
- All project/assignments are due one week after the final concert of the **Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian**

4th Week (two weeks following the Summer Jazz Camp @ Moravian: off-campus)

- Student will complete any leftover assignments.
- Jazz arranger/composer research paper is due

Additional Statements:

- It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for an assignment or for a course.
- This syllabus is subject to change/alteration at the discretion of the instructor.

Student Code of Conduct:

The Student Handbook (<https://www.moravian.edu/handbook>) provides helpful information that is relevant to both Moravian University and Seminary students. Of particular note in the handbook is the [Academic Code of Conduct \(https://www.moravian.edu/catalog/academic-regulations/academic-code-of-conduct\)](https://www.moravian.edu/catalog/academic-regulations/academic-code-of-conduct). Students are expected to follow the Academic Code of Conduct at all times. We understand that there may be discipline-specific guidelines that are not covered by that blanket policy.

Student Support:

Moravian University is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or you think you may have a disability) and, as a result, you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the institution's programs or services, contact the Accessibility Services Center (ASC) as soon as possible. To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with ASC. The ASC works with students confidentially and only discloses disability-related information on a need to know basis or with the student's permission. To contact the Accessibility Services Center (ASC), located in the lower level of the HUB call 610-861-1401, or email asc@moravian.edu.

- **Academic Support:** (<https://www.moravian.edu/academic-support>) The office of Academic Support houses peer-assisted learning of many kinds as well as a variety of programming and supports that are valuable to learners in all degree programs at the university. Part of Student Success here at Moravian, Academic Support is here to help students get the most out of their education.
- **Accessibility Services:** (<https://www.moravian.edu/accessibility>) The Accessibility Services Center at Moravian University ensures access for every student with a disability by removing barriers in design, promoting disability as an aspect of diversity, and creating a campus where access and inclusion are seamless. Students can receive help with testing, classroom accommodations, notetaker accommodations, coaching intake appointments, and medical needs beyond two weeks.
- **Counseling Center:** (<https://www.moravian.edu/counseling>) The Counseling Center aims to enhance the mental wellness of the Moravian University community by providing counseling and therapy services, psychiatric services, consultation, and outreach.

Title IX Statement:

Moravian University faculty are committed to providing a learning environment free from harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment/violence under Title IX. Should a student disclose a concern of this nature, the faculty member is obligated to inform the Executive Director for Equity and Compliance (Title IX Coordinator), who will assist the student in determining support measures and resolution options.

Reports can be made online anytime at <https://www.moravian.edu/equity-compliance>. Fully confidential reporting options include the University Chaplains and professionals in the Counseling and Health Centers. Survivors are encouraged to seek immediate assistance by contacting the Advocates at (484) 764-9242. For more information, including grievance procedures, please view

Moravian's University's policies online at: <https://www.moravian.edu/policy/harassment-discrimination>.

Moravian University adheres to all federal and state civil rights laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination in private institutions of higher education. The University does not discriminate against any employee, applicant for employment, student, or applicant for admission on the basis of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, color, sex, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, caste, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, pregnancy, familial status, marital status, citizenship status, veteran/military status, disability status, or any other protected category under applicable local, state, or federal law, including protections for those opposing discrimination or participating in any grievance process on campus, with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or other human rights agencies.