Contact Information

Instructor: Scott Whitfield
Office Location: MUS 204
Telephone: 818-577-8676
Email: scott@bicoastalmusic.net
Office Hours: W, 9:30am
Class Days/Time: TR, 3:30pm
Classroom: MUS 150
Prerequisites: By audition only

Course Description
The goal of the SJSU Jazz Orchestra will be to perform music in various styles of the jazz idiom at the highest musical level possible. Compositions by major jazz composers such as Thad Jones, Sammy Nestico, and Bob Brookmeyer will be emphasized as well as new compositions by up-and-coming composers and members of the SJSU Jazz Orchestra. By studying and performing the music of these various composers, students in the ensemble will improve ensemble playing skills, improvisational ability, and increase their understanding and appreciation of music for the large jazz ensemble.

Course Goals and Learning Objectives
• The students will be able to perform the music studied with correct rhythms and notes in public performances.

• The students will be aware of the role their individual part plays in the total musical fabric of the compositions studied.

• The students will be able to produce an artistic and stylistically accurate musical rendering of their part in public performances.

• The student will be able to show sensitivity to subtle phrasings and to broader musical gestures in the music studied and performed.

• The student will be able to perform with a mature characteristic tone quality and will be able to address matching pitch and intonation tendencies both in their musical
line and with others in the ensemble.

• Students will be able to demonstrate professional behavior by being on time to all rehearsals with their individual parts prepared.

• The students will be able to demonstrate professional standards of stage and concert etiquette during public performances.

Material Requirements

• In addition to your music and a pencil, the following materials must be brought to every rehearsal and performance: Saxes: all saxes must bring flute and clarinet to every rehearsal. Alto 1 must bring a soprano sax. Baritone Sax must bring (or at least have immediate access to) a bass clarinet. If you are not comfortable with doubling...now is the time to get comfortable! Trombones: all necessary mutes must be at every rehearsal (plunger, bucket, and cup) Trumpets: flugelhorns must be at every rehearsal as well as all necessary mutes (plunger, cup, harmon, bucket, and straight) Rhythm: all necessary sticks, brushes, cords, pedal boards, amps, and anything else that may be necessary for proper interpretation of the music

Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grading Policy

Attendance at every rehearsal is expected. Excused absences are conflicts outside of the control of the student (i.e. illness, death in the family). It is important to call the School of Music and Dance (408-924-4676) and notify the director of any absences. Unexcused absences are conflicts within the control of the student (i.e. had another performance/rehearsal, had to study, had another appointment).

Also – sectionals must be held by each section once every week for at least one hour. Section leaders are responsible for scheduling these sectionals and making sure all members of your section are in attendance. The purpose of these sectionals is to focus more intensely on problematic sections of the music so that it may be more easily assembled during the weekly ensemble rehearsals.

As of August 24, 2015 we have the following scheduled concerts:

October 7, 2015, 7:30pm, Concert Hall
December 8, 2015, 7:30pm, Concert Hall (with possible guest artist TBD)

Classroom Protocol

No cell phone usage will be allowed in rehearsals.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the
current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedropspolicy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University’s continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.