
COURSE SYLLABUS: JAZZ BAND, MUS121 & 122

Fall 2015 T, Th; 6:50am – 7:30am
Instructor: William N. Rowley
Music Department
Dubuque Senior High School

Course Description

The Jazz Studies Program provides students with a comprehensive jazz education. Particular emphasis is given to jazz styles, genres, listening, improvisation, expression, and interaction. Emphasis is also placed on comprehension, analysis, synthesis, and application so students can become lifelong learners and consumers of jazz. Traditionally the instrumentation of a jazz band includes saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section (piano, bass, guitar, and drums). If there are enough students interested in this course of study we will provide two big band ensembles. The Jazz Band will perform several times throughout the year, including performances at school, community, district and state events. The jazz combo will provide opportunities for those students interested in learning more about the jazz idiom and improvisational skills.

Jazz Band I

Jazz Band I is an auditioned group of students who have demonstrated proficiency at sightreading, aural, rhythmic, and improvisation skills. Emphasis will be on listening, interaction, expression, and the further development of rhythmic, aural, improvisation, and ensemble skills as well as comprehension of jazz theory.

Jazz Band II

Jazz Band II is open to anyone who plays (or is willing to learn) a jazz instrument interested in playing in a jazz band. Emphasis will be on participation, listening, interaction, improvisation, and expression, as well as developing sight-reading, rhythmic, and aural skills.

Combo

Combo is an ensemble for students interested in learning to develop their aural, improvisation, and expressive skills. Traditionally, a jazz combo is made of a rhythm section (piano, bass, drums, possibly guitar or vibes), and one - four horn players. Any wind instruments can be involved in combo playing and in any combination.

Standards

The National Core Art Standards guides educators in providing a unified quality arts education for students in Pre-K through high school.

Creating

- Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

Performing/ Presenting/ Producing

- Anchor Standard #4. Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #5. Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

Responding

- Anchor Standard #7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Connecting

- Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
- Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

Assessments

Formative assessments will be continually given aurally, visually, physically and verbally by the instructor to facilitate student success. Every two weeks students will also be evaluated on their progress toward individual goals via individual/group lessons. In addition, students will be required to be assessed in a public performance showcasing their collective accomplishments. Students will be assessed on the documentation of their effort and growth over every 6 week period and subject to public perception about their artistic accomplishment. Emphasis will be placed on the mastery of basic musical concepts, individual leadership skills and the awareness/appreciation of musical artistic beauty.

Content

Each concert series will reflect the progression of processes outlined in the standards. We will: 1) Choose music as it relates to a given artistic goal; 2) Plan out student outcomes as related to the final artistic endeavor of the concert and student ability; 3) Track, facilitate and record student progress through the concert series based on individual outcomes; 4) and share all information with our public. Individual evaluation information shall be processed to facilitate student growth in the future.

Instructional Strategies

Every opportunity to connect with individual students and facilitate their learning will be utilized. Aural, visual, physical, and verbal stimulate will be utilized to actualize student goals and creativity. We will use recordings, scores of music, verbal feedback, live musical examples, large and small body posture and movement, practice regimes, and rote learning to accomplish our goals.

Resources:

Virtually all resources will be provided to you by the DSHS music department. If you want to access more resources we encourage you to study privately. In addition please utilize the following websites for recorded examples or tutorial process. www.jwpepper.com, www.arrpubco.com, smartmusic, www.makemusic.com, Reyman, Randall G. (1986). *Technical Drills for the Jazz/Commercial Player*. Delevan, NY: Kendor Music, Inc.

Additional photocopied materials and music will be distributed for you.

Additional Policies and Guidelines

Please refer to the DSHS Music Department handbook for further detailed information on policies and procedures for this year. This was the publication we shared with students and parents on “Meet the Musicians Night”.

Grading Plan

Students will receive grades by their participation in the activity, their progression through the process of sight reading, rhythm, pitch discrimination, use of dynamics, and stylistic embellishments per every concert series. Students will also go through the process of self-evaluation for every concert series. Students final grade per concert series will be determined by the total score of these three areas compared to 100%. Percentages will be as follows: lessons – 30%, performances – 30%, rehearsals – 30%, and self-evaluation – 10%.

Communication Plan

Office 563-552-5603, Cell 563-599-9389

email: wrowley@dbgschools.org

Bi-Monthly Memorandum with future dates

Remind101

Facebook – Dubuque Senior High School Band

Website – www.dubuqueseniormusic.com