

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Communication and Arts
Music Department

Course Number and Title

MUSI 1301, Jazz Band I

Catalog Description

Jazz band is a performance based lab that is open to musicians of all skill levels. The course will deal primarily with the techniques needed to perform and improvise on standard jazz band repertoire. Performance material will include well known jazz standards, blues, rhythm changes, ballads, bossa novas, and jazz-rock fusion. Classes will include lectures on jazz theory, harmony, and improvisation strategies. Students will supply instruments and some public performances may be required. May be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisites

None

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

1 Credit hour/ 3 Contact hours/3 Load hours

Target Audience/Transferability

This course is designed as an ensemble course for music majors and will transfer as a 1 credit hour ensemble elective. The course is also open to non-majors and will count as an elective toward an Associate of Arts degree and as an elective toward some 4-year degrees. Community members who are not pursuing degrees join without registration for credit.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Demonstrate improvement in performance skills, particularly in the area of improvisation
- Show proof of successful public performances
- Discuss the structure and styles of the pieces performed during the semester
- Provide evidence through public performances of effective, disciplined teamwork.

Topics

Titles of musical selections vary each year. Other topics will include jazz theory, harmony, and improvisation strategies. Some selections will be carried from fall to spring terms, and some become part of the permanent repertoire of the group.

Forms of Assessment

- Summary critiques of concerts by students and director.