

JAZZ-A SOCIAL HISTORY
MUSIC 116-001
Fall Semester 2011

Instructor: Professor Joseph A. Chambers
Room & Time: Cultural Arts 1059
Mon. & Wed. 6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

Office Hours: Room 1020
Mon. & Wed. 5:30-6:30 p.m. and by appointment
Email & Phone: chambersj@uncw.edu,
962-7957

Course Objective & Description: The objective of this course is to give a comprehensive overview of the development of jazz, as well as to gain knowledge and understanding of the socio-political, and economic factors that played a part in that development. In addition to the lecture format, the course will include listening and analyzing particular styles of influential musicians. Documentary film and reading assignments will be a part of the course.

Required Text: BLUES PEOPLE, LeRoi Jonesw (William Morrow & Co., 1963)

Suggested Reading:

A TREASURY OF AFRO-AMERICAN FOLKLORE, Harold Courlander; Crown 1975
MUNTU: The New African Culture, Janheinz Jahn; Grove Press
THE STORY OF JAZZ, Marshall Sterns; Oxford University Press, reprint 1973
SAVANNAH SYNOCPATORS: African Retentions in the Blues, Paul Oliver; Stern & Day Publishers
MILES: the Autobiography, Miles Davis; Stern & Shuster Publishers

Requirements:

Attend two (2) musical performances; Jazz or "New World" concerts.
Write a Reaction Paper for each concert (will explain more in class)
Reaction paper accounts for 25% of grade

Mid-term Exam – 10% (date to be set)
Final Exam – 40%

Class Participation will be considered.

Attendance:

Three unexcused absences lowers grade. Excused absences are: 1) for medical attention and must have medical provider's note; 2) activities of school administrative nature.

JAZZ A SOCIAL HISTORY

Professor Joseph A. Chambers , Instructor
CA, Room1059, M &W 6:30-7:45 p.m

Schedule : Beginnings to World War II

- Week 1 Background – African Heritage
- Week 2 African Heritage, Instruments & Practices
 African Retentions in the Americas
- Week 3 Syncretism and Acculturation (Santeria, Voodoo, Rhumba)
- Week 4 European Heritage, Pre-Jazz Forms
 “Great Awakening” Era; Emergence of Black Church, White Gospel,
 Spiritual and Gospels
- Week 5 Work Songs, Dance Songs
- Week 6 Blues Re-defined
- Week 7 New Orleans Background
 Review of Socio-Plitical Climate of 1700’s through 1890’s
 1st Reaction Paper due/Mid-term

- Week 8 Minstrelsy (Tragedy of Minstrelsy)
- Week 9 Jazz beginnings
 Review the beginnings of jazz as a commercial commodity
- Week10 “Race Records”; politics of the recording industry
 The “Jazz Age”
- Week 11 The Black Migration (Chicago, Kansas City, New York)
 2nd Reaction Paper due

- Week 12 Big Bands (Harlem Renaissance Era, Fletcher Henderson, Duke Ellington,
 Jimmy Lunceford)
- Week 13 “Swing Era” (Swing from verb to noun)
- Week 14 Be-Bop Revolution
- Week 15 Review and Final Exam Preparation