



MUSC3104

Contemplating Jazz: History, Style, Reception

Term One // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Alister Spence	alister.spence@unsw.edu.au	by appointment only	Webster 246b	

Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
TBA details to be posted on Moodle	sam@unsw.edu.au	TBA details to be posted on Moodle		

School Contact Information

School of the Arts and Media

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The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Since its beginnings around a century ago, jazz has consistently enthused listeners with the inventiveness, expressiveness and virtuosity of its performers, and the variety of its styles. Beginning with African American chants, field hollers, early blues and urban dance forms, this course traces a history of the music, outlining the development and details of various styles of jazz, both in the United States and abroad. Tracing the changing locations in which the music has developed, it examines the roles of individual artists and musical collectivities in the innovation of styles. It investigates the dissemination of jazz through emerging media technologies, and notes the influence of other music on jazz musicians: popular music, rhythm and blues, soul, rock, classical music and world music, such as Latin American music, French gypsy music, South African kwela and mbqanga. As jazz has become the scintillating soundtrack to many lives, the course examines both the practical use of jazz as sound and image in film, literature and the visual arts, and some of the many meanings listeners have ascribed to it. The course introduces you to critical debates surrounding jazz: debates of race, authenticity, ownership, gender and commercialization. The course engages you in the process of informed listening.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Describe and discuss jazz performances of a wide range of styles, in live, mediated and incidental contexts
2. Explain the development and reception of jazz styles in terms of the genre's internal development, its relationships to other music and its changing historical and socio-cultural circumstances.
3. Critically examine questions of race, authenticity, ownership, gender and commercialization that impinge on discussion of music.
4. Formulate, justify and develop plans for innovative thematic, historical or analytic presentations of jazz, for a wide-ranging audience. This skill may then be applied to other musical genres.

Teaching Strategies

Lectures, supported by audio-visual presentation, will examine the historical, social, and artistic contexts and development of jazz. Lectures will outline the basics of musical styles, which will be investigated in greater detail, introducing and refining appropriate terminology, in close listening sessions within tutorials. These will develop your ability to historically describe and critically discuss jazz performances of a wide range of styles. These listening sessions will frequently focus on works examined in key readings, thus linking particular works and styles to critical debates surrounding jazz. Your discussion and blogs on reading and listening activities will allow you the opportunity to develop and demonstrate your understanding of jazz as sound and as social practice. In-class readings, viewings and discussions of literary and filmic representations of jazz will supplement your understanding of the reception of jazz and the meanings listeners have drawn from it. Periodic examination of festival programs, radio playlists, recording compilations etc. will help you to develop plans for innovative thematic, historical or analytic presentations of jazz.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Listening Exams	30%	To be held in the tutorials in week 5 and week 10	1, 2
Proposal for documentary series or concert series.	50%	14/04/2021 11:59 PM	1, 4
Preparatory Research Task	20%	Due according to the schedule given in Week 1	2, 3

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Listening Exams

Details:

2 X 25 minutes. In-class listening test.

Papers marked and returned.

Additional details:

The full list will be available on the Moodle site.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Proposal for documentary series or concert series.

Length: 2500 - 3000 words

Details:

Researched proposal for documentary series. Approx. 2500 – 3000 words.

Papers marked and returned.

Additional details:

Full details of this assignment will be discussed in the tutorial in Week 1

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Preparatory Research Task

Details:

Assigned readings and discussion. 500 words per blog.

5 summaries – pass fail

Written feedback on reading summaries.

Additional details:

Full details of this task will be given in the tutorial in week 1

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 15 February - 19 February	Lecture	Africa and enslavement
	Tutorial	"Coming through Slaughter"
Week 2: 22 February - 26 February	Lecture	ragtime, blues, early jazz
	Tutorial	definitions of jazz
Week 3: 1 March - 5 March	Lecture	combo, solo, swing
	Tutorial	"Anatomy of a Murder" early reception
Week 4: 8 March - 12 March	Lecture	bebop
	Tutorial	"Mumbo Jumbo" - gender
Week 5: 15 March - 19 March	Lecture	Proliferation
	Tutorial	Listening Test 1 "Elevator to the Gallows"
Week 6: 22 March - 26 March	Lecture	NO CLASSES
	Tutorial	NO CLASSES
Week 7: 29 March - 2 April	Lecture	Experimentation
	Tutorial	"The Bear" politics and civil rights
Week 8: 5 April - 9 April	Lecture	The 80s
	Tutorial	"Mo' Better Blues"
Week 9: 12 April - 16 April	Lecture	Rejuvenations
	Tutorial	"But Beautiful" whither (or wither)?
Week 10: 19 April - 23 April	Lecture	International
	Tutorial	Listening Test 2. Summary

Resources

Recommended Resources

See list of resources and reading schedule on Moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

This course will be evaluated through the myExperience questionnaire. Previous questionnaires have resulted in a revision of the preparatory research task and the listening test, and on greater detail of the documentary proposal being given in class.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

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CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.