

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Division of Humanities & Social Sciences

**An Informational Promo for Mu26 may be found on Youtube at:**

**<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVcaOO8KxwU>**

Winter 2011  
M/W 2:00 – 3:25  
Prof. Tom Neenan

**Mu 26 – Jazz History**

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Office Hours: M & W, 12:30 – 1:30 pm or by appointment  
Course website on Moodle

**Course Materials**

Text: Jazz: An American Journey, Brian Harker, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005. Required  
Includes: 3 CD set: **Jazz: An American Journey** and **Prentice Hall Jazz Collection CD**  
Course Outline: To be distributed. Cost to each student: under \$6.00. Required

Listening: Students will complete a weekly listening assignment consisting of **two parts**:  
**Part 1): Listening Guides using the Jazz: An American Journey (3 CD set)** which accompanies the text;  
**Part 2): Listening Guides from Jazz Styles: History and Analysis**, Mark C. Gridley, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006. Multiple copies of Gridley and accompanying CDs available on reserve, Milikan Library, overnight check-out.

**Gridley includes**

Jazz Styles: History and Analysis (**Jazz Classics 2 CD set**) and Jazz Styles: History and Analysis (**Demonstration CD**)

You will need the **2 CD set to complete the Listening Guides** indicated in the Course Outline; you will need the single **Demonstration CD to complete the Components of Jazz assignments** (Weeks 1 – 4) listed below in the course synopsis

**Required Listening Guide assignments are shown in the Course Outline** as “Harker Listening Guide x” or “Gridley y,” (Harker refers to Listening Guide number; Gridley to page number)

**Assignments pertaining to the Components of Jazz are listed on the synopsis below and require Gridley: Demonstration CD**

Harker refers to selections on the Prentice Hall Jazz Collection, included with your text. Listening guides for most of these selections are to be found in Gridley or at [www.prenhall.com/gridley](http://www.prenhall.com/gridley).

## **Other Matters**

**Reading Assignments and Listening Assignments are to be done before the class in which the material will be covered.** It is of critical importance that you have a familiarity with concepts and some of the music before it is covered in class. You will be asked to turn in on a regular basis a one or two sentence summary of important or interesting material you have heard or read in preparation for the day's class meeting. These summaries will be recorded and considered in determining your final course grade. **Assignments will be posted on the website after each class for the coming class meeting.** It is your responsibility to keep current with the assigned listening and reading.

**Regular Class Attendance is absolutely essential – no exceptions.**

**Students absent from more than 3 hours of class** may be in danger of failing the course unless a written excuse from the Dean's office can be provided. Your **attentive** presence in class is of paramount importance due to the nature of the subject and the amount of in-class listening and workshops we do. If you don't think you can regularly attend class, do not enroll in this course.

## **Exams & grading**

- The grading scheme for this course is currently under review with the intent of making the course assignments more student-determined.
- **This course is intended and designed for students who have no musical background or experience.** Although many students will have some musical background, those without such background are at no disadvantage.

## **SYNOPSIS**

### **PART I**

**Class meeting (1.1 = Week One, Monday; 4.2 = Week Four, Wednesday)**

#### **1.1-1.2      Origins of Jazz, Text Part 1**

Components of Jazz, **Week 1:** To be done on your own: **Gridley Demonstration CD** tracks 1-15

The following pages from Gridley are highly recommended reading as they give more complete background information pertaining to jazz improvisation and the origins of jazz than Harker. It is recommended that you read these sections by the middle of week two.  
4 – 17; 28 – 30; 34 – 42

#### **2.1-3.2      Early Jazz, Text Part 2**

Workshops on hearing rhythms, tempos and further aspects of improvisation; hearing chord changes

Components of Jazz, **Week 2:** To be done on your own: **Gridley Demonstration CD** tracks 16-41

Components of Jazz, **Week 3:** To be done on your own: **Gridley Demonstration CD** tracks 42-83

**Complete quiz on track 99. Turn in completed quiz by 4.1**

## **PART II**

**4.1-6.1**      **Swing, Text Part 3**

**6.2-8.1**      **Bop, Text Part 4**

## **Part III**

**8.2-10.2**      **Free Jazz to Fusion, Text Part 5**  
                    **Postmodern Jazz, Text Part 6**