

Common Course Outline

MUSC 179

Jazz Ensemble

1 Semester Hour

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description:

Studies and performs “standard” big band arrangements. Open to all in the community. Note: Was MUSC 159 prior to 2005.

Overall Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Perform works composed and/or arranged for “big band” jazz ensemble with accuracy, fluency, and style;
2. Demonstrate an awareness of and an appreciation for works composed and/or arranged for “big band” jazz ensemble;
3. Demonstrate effective practice techniques through performance;
4. Demonstrate appropriate techniques associated with ensemble performance, including but not limited to:
 - a. appropriate (instrumental or vocal) tone quality,
 - b. intonation and blend,
 - c. ensemble awareness and teamwork,
 - d. expression and musical sensitivity,
 - e. articulation and stylistic interpretation,
 - f. following the conductor,
 - g. music reading, counting habits and rhythmic precision;
5. Perform group repertoire in public recitals and concerts; and
6. Demonstrate a professional attitude and respect for fellow musicians.

Major Topics:

These topics will be covered in the following general order:

1. Ensemble policies and procedures.
2. Appropriate rehearsal practices and etiquette.
3. Weekly rehearsals conducted by ensemble director.
4. Exposure to works for “big band” jazz ensemble from various historical periods and in various styles.
5. Sectional rehearsals/coaching when available and appropriate.
6. Listening to and evaluating live or recorded performances.
7. Public performances of ensemble repertoire.

Course Requirements:

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to

function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

Assessment is based on:

1. Regular and punctual attendance in class (ensemble rehearsal) and at public performances;
2. Full and active participation in weekly ensemble rehearsals;
3. Successful performance of repertoire in public recitals, concerts, and adjudication;
4. Effective use of individual practice time;
5. Improvement of performance skills during the semester; and
6. Full and active participation in equipment set-up and break-down.

Other Course Information:

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.