Ohio University School of Music

Minor in Jazz Studies

The Minor in Jazz Studies is intended for undergraduates who wish to emphasize the study of jazz in addition to their major area of focus. While no audition is required, permission to enroll is granted through the Associate Director for Academic Affairs of the School of Music. The Minor in Jazz Studies includes courses in arranging, improvisation, history, theory, ensemble experiences, and electives.

Music Theory and Improvisation: 4-5 credit hours

- MUS 3770 – Jazz Improvisation I; 1 hr. (typically offered fall semester)
- MUS 4050 – Jazz Theory I; 2 hrs. (typically offered every other spring semester)
  And one of the following:
- MUS 3771 – Improvisation II; 1 hr. (contact faculty for offerings)
- MUS 4051 – Jazz Theory II/Jazz Arranging; 2 hrs. (typically offered every other spring semester)

Music History and Literature: 4-5 credit hours

- MUS 3625 – Jazz History; 3 hrs. (typically offered summer session online) TIER II
  And one of the following:
- MUS 1210 – Intro to World Music; 3 hrs. (typically offered every semester) TIER II
- MUS 1240 – History of Rock Music I; 2 hrs. (typically offered every semester) TIER II
- MUS 4250 – Music of Africa; 2 hrs. (typically offered fall semester)

Jazz Ensembles: 4 credit hours

- MUS 2543 – Jazz Percussion Ensemble; 0.5 hrs.
- MUS 2550 – Jazz Ensemble (big band and/or combo); 1 hr. (typically offered every semester)

Suggested Electives: 5-6 credit hours

- MUS 2240 – History of Rock Music II; 3 hrs. (typically offered fall semester)
- MUS 2480 – African Ensemble I; 1 hr. (typically offered fall semester)
- MUS 2481 – African Ensemble II; 1 hr. (typically offered spring semester)
- MUS 4650 – Jazz Ensemble Methods; 1 hr. (typically offered fall semester)

Courses listed above under Music History-Literature may be taken as electives if not being used to meet the degree requirements in those areas.

Minimum Credit Hours Required: 18

Ohio University Jazz Ensembles

Jazz Ensembles, Jazz Combos, and the Jazz Percussion Ensemble form the jazz performance experience at Ohio University. These ensembles are open to all qualified students by audition, regardless of major. Concerts on and off campus, tours, and consistent contact with guest artists provide students with a variety of performance opportunities. Students also benefit from a broad range of jazz studies courses, including Jazz Improvisation I and II, Jazz History, Jazz Theory, Jazz Arranging, and Jazz Methods/Pedagogy. Auditions are held each semester and are open to all students, regardless of major field of study. Phone (740)593-4244 for additional information about Ohio University’s jazz offerings.
Ohio University Jazz Percussion Ensemble

One of the first groups to blend jazz and world music with percussion, the Jazz Percussion Ensemble (JPE) was founded by Percussion Professor Emeritus, Guy Remonko. Emphasizing improvisation and creativity, the JPE has created a unique repertoire that has gained national attention. The ensemble has performed for the Ohio Music Educators Association Conference and the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, as well as at schools and colleges throughout the region. The group’s performances have featured guest artists including Dave Samuels, Ted Piltzecker, Bill Molenhof, and Roland Vazquez.

Ohio University African Music Ensembles

The African Music Ensembles bring together students from across the university to study and perform a wide variety of music from across the African continent. The ensembles perform regularly throughout each academic year, participate in various symposia, and are featured on AZA, a major celebration of African music and culture presented each spring on campus.

About the School of Music

One of four schools in the College of Fine Arts, the School of Music plays a significant part of the vibrant cultural life of the Ohio University campus. School of Music students, faculty, and guest artists present well over two hundred concerts and recitals each year. A distinguished faculty of 43 music professors serves a primarily residential student body of approximately 230 undergraduate and 50 masters students. Degree programs include music education, performance, music therapy, conducting, music history and literature, music theory, composition and pedagogy. School of Music alumni hold prominent teaching and professional positions throughout the United States and abroad. The School is committed to a continuing tradition of excellence, and is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

About Ohio University

Ohio University, chartered in 1804, was the first institute of higher learning in the Northwest Territory. Today it has a student body of over 20,000, offers degrees in more than 250 undergraduate programs and grants master's and doctoral degrees in nearly all of its major academic divisions. Located in Athens, among the rolling hills of southeastern Ohio, the university provides diverse intellectual stimulation and a wealth of social and cultural activities in a scenic setting. Driving time to neighboring cities with active performance calendars include: Cincinnati, Ohio (3 hours); Cleveland, Ohio (3.5 hours); Columbus, Ohio (1.5 hours); Charleston, West Virginia (1.5 hours); Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (3.5 hours).

Questions regarding program content may be addressed to:

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Jazz Studies Faculty

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