

MUSIC 236/436 | CSU BAKERSFIELD | SPRING 2011

SMALL JAZZ ENSEMBLE (30267/30268)

Kris Tiner, Instructor

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Day and Time

Mondays 6-9 p.m., CSUB Music Building, Band Room #128

Each ensemble will have a designated weekly rehearsal within the scheduled time for this course. Additional rehearsals may be required when necessary to prepare for a performance or recording session.

Office hours with the instructor are by appointment.

Important Dates

Monday, April 25, 6-9 p.m.

Workshop and performance by Blue Cranes (www.bluecranesmusic.com)

Fantastic quintet from Portland, Oregon on a national tour by train!

Band Room #128

All students plan to attend the full three hours.

Friday-Saturday, May 6-7

25th Annual Bakersfield Jazz Festival

Saturday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.

CSUB Jazz Coffeehouse Concert

Featuring Walsh Set Trio (www.brianwalshclarinet.org)

Choir Room #127

Student call time: 1 p.m. (set-up) to 10:30 p.m. (tear-down).

Plan to attend an informal workshop with the guest artists around 5 p.m.

May/June Dates TBA

Plan for **studio recording** of original student compositions. Stay tuned for info.

Course Description

Music 236/436 (Small Jazz Ensemble) is intended for students who want to participate in jazz combos. Rehearsals will be approximately 75 minutes per week and will be coached by the instructor. These rehearsals will culminate in a performance at the CSUB Jazz Coffeehouse concert as well as occasional appearances at off-campus venues.

Course Materials

Each student must bring their own **instrument, music, manuscript paper**, and a **pencil** to each rehearsal. Failure to bring your music or a functioning musical instrument will result in a reduction of the rehearsal participation portion of your grade.

Requirements

Each student is required to perform in the CSUB Jazz Coffeehouse concert on **Saturday, May 14**. The total mandatory time commitment includes set-up, sound check, performance, and tear-down, so plan to be available **from 1 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.**, and talk to your employer ASAP if you will need to take the day off of work. Every student must contribute to make this a successful concert; failure to do your fair share will result in a lowered final grade.

Finally, students are required to attend **at least two additional live jazz events** during the Spring quarter. This can be the weekly Bakersfield Jazz Workshop, the CSUB Jazz Ensemble Concert, Legends of Jazz concert, Bakersfield College Jazz Ensemble, or another legitimate college or professional-level jazz performance. I will keep you informed about local events, or check with me if you're looking to find something out-of-town.

Attendance and Participation

Any absence or tardy, either for a rehearsal or performance, must be cleared with the instructor in advance, and will only be excused for serious and/or compelling reasons. Only one excused rehearsal absence is permitted. **No unexcused absences are allowed.**

Under no circumstance is a performance absence acceptable. If a student misses a scheduled performance, a grade of "F" will be issued for the quarter.

If an absence is unavoidable, the student must either send an email to ktiner@csub.edu or place a phone call or text message to the cell phone of the instructor (661-205-1874) prior to the scheduled rehearsal.

Grading Information

Each student will receive a grade for every rehearsal and performance. Grades will be based on attendance, preparation, improvement (if any), and overall ensemble success. An "A" grade shows exceptional work and a "B" grade shows that some progress was made. A grade of "C" or lower shows below average work and progress. These grades will be averaged together to calculate the student's final grade in the course (see the percentage breakdown below).

During the week students are expected to prepare and practice their ensemble parts individually, for as much time as it takes to be able to come to each rehearsal fully prepared. Ensemble rehearsals are times when the entire piece will be practiced, allowing for work on balance, shaping, expression and other ensemble-specific issues. Under-prepared students force the ensemble to wait on their progress – greatly limiting the ability of the ensemble to meet its goals.

Breakdown of Grades

Rehearsal Attendance, Preparation, and Progress	40%
Coffeehouse Concert Attendance and Performance	40%
Workshop/Concert Attendance and Participation	20%

There are no written tests, quizzes, or final exams in this course.

More Information

This syllabus, a schedule of important dates, audio files, and other resources relevant to this course are available at my website. Go to www.kristiner.com and click on **Pages > Classes > Music 236/436**.

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