

**West Los Angeles College**  
**Department of Music**  
**Music 775**  
**Jazz Ensemble**

Instructor: Phil Small

Office Hours: Thursday 4:30-5:30 pm or by appointment FA-102

Email: smallp@wlaac.edu [smallp@wlaac.edu](mailto:smallp@wlaac.edu)

Phone: 310-600-1431

**Jazz Ensemble: Music 775, Section 1588**, One evening performance at semester's end, date to be arranged. Additional performances generally occur each semester. Attendance at all performances is required.

**Statement of Teaching Philosophy:** Since learning is a lifelong process, let us enjoy the process of learning!

**Course Description:**

Our course objective is to perfect big band charts through rehearsal, culminating in live performance. The course is open to vocalists, and all standard jazz instruments. We strive for a mutually supportive, non-competitive, relaxed yet serious educational environment.

Auditions: All students must audition on the first day of the semester, or in advance by arrangement with instructor.

Textbook: none

**Course requirements**

Students will be required to perform specific tasks in class

Students will be required to read and improvise music in class

Students will demonstrate accumulated knowledge for the mid-term and final performances

**Policy and Expectations**

Regular attendance and participation is required in the class.

Late assignments and projects are lowered by one grade

**Evaluation and Grading**

Students are expected to attend rehearsals regularly, and participate in the final performance, in addition to any other performances that may occur during the semester.

Meeting these criteria will result in an A grade. Repeated absence will result in a lowering of the grade, as will absence from any performance.

Attendance and participation:	50%
Assignments:	25%
Final Performance	25%

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Students Programs and Services located in HRLC 119, phone number 310-287-4450 as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

This course will help students achieve the following **WLAC Student Learning Outcomes:**

**A. Technical Competence: Utilize the appropriate technology effectively for informational, academic, personal, and professional needs. Use competent technique in a musical performance.**

Assessment: Students will improve their sight reading in terms of note recognition and rhythm. Students will gain technical proficiency through repeated practice.

**B. Aesthetics: Use multiple modes of inquiry and approaches to experience and to engage with the arts and nature; develop and express personal creative visions throughout all aspects of ones' life.**

Assessment: Students will interact musically on an ongoing basis, and cultivate personal expression by developing improvisational skills.

**C. Critical Thinking:** Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinion, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences

**D. Quantitative Reasoning:** Identify, analyze and solve problems that are quantitative in nature