EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
MUSIC
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Music Department
FA / MUSI 1053 3.0 SECTION A
JAZZ CHOIR I
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Performs a repertoire grounded in the body of standard songs which have become established in the jazz tradition. Instruction and training in jazz choral technique is provided. Prerequisite: Open to qualified non-majors/minors by permission.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adams, Mimmie</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / Y</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adamsm@yorku.ca">adamsm@yorku.ca</a></td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

FA/MUSI 1053/2053/3053/4053 3.0 - JAZZ CHOIR
FW 2018-2019

Instructor: Mim Adams  adamsm@yorku.ca  647-200-4971
Coach: Tom Forsyth  tforce@yorku.ca

SPECIAL FEATURES

Pre-Requisite/Co-Requisite
Open to all music majors, and to qualified non-majors/minors by permission. All students require a placement audition. Lower level is prerequisite for upper level registration.

Expanded Course Description
Students learn and practice ensemble singing techniques using the standard body of jazz repertoire in various jazz styles as well as improvised music. The class focus is on rehearsing repertoire for performance at the end of each semester. Students will work with the whole choir and in smaller groups, and will perform accompanied by a rhythm section.

LEARNING OUTCOMES WITH EXAMPLES

Students will develop and improve the skills required to sing in the jazz choral tradition. Specifically:
• Vocal control and dexterity
• General music skills that assist with learning repertoire
• The sounds of harmonic structures in the jazz idiom, and harmonic goals within each piece
• Techniques for rhythmic feel in various jazz styles
• Melodic, lyrical and musical expression within the jazz genre

Learning Activities
• Full choir work: five-eight pieces.
• Small group work: upper levels one piece each term, 1053 level one piece in second term only. To be performed in class and/or in concert.
• Unison song: working a cappella, in pairs/groups, submit a video performance of a jazz standard. Details and song list TBA.
• Singing tests: perform excerpts of choir pieces individually and/or in pairs/groups.
• Sound check & concert: public performance during York University Jazz Festival at the end of each term. Dates TBA.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

• Attendance, responsibility 20%
  Mandatory at all times. It is the student's responsibility to provide advance notice to the course director via email if lateness/absence is unavoidable. Documented proof may be required.
• Preparation, improvement 15%
  Outside of class, students are expected to listen to recordings posted on the website, practice all music and techniques independently, and meet with sections/partners to practice once a week. In class, students must arrive prepared, actively participate in all exercises, and demonstrate part/voice/skill improvement.
• Singing tests 25%
  Individual test 5%, Pairs test 5%, Unison video 5%, Small group in-class performance 10%
  Students will be graded on accurate pitch, rhythm, tone, diction, and other items indicated in advance. Most of the test preparation must be done outside of class.
• Sound checks & concerts 40%
  Punctuality, professionalism and proper attire is required. All music is to be confidently memorized, and the performance should demonstrate the technical and artistic skills learned in rehearsals.

Lateness penalty: Late singing tests and small group performances will be penalized 10% per class. Late video tests will be penalized 10% per day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc. may be entertained by the course director and will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

Missed performances: Students with an unavoidable reason for missing a performance, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g. doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the course instructor. Students will be required to submit a written assignment on a topic related to jazz choir and/or jazz choir singing. Assignments must be emailed to the course director and are due three days after the performance date. The grade given for this assignment will replace the missed component for that semester. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the faculty.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course Webpage: mimadams.com/york
Includes general choir information. No grades will be posted on the site.

Performance Dates
• Thursday November 22, 2018 - York University Jazz Festival
  Time TBA, plan for 4:30-7:30pm
  Tribute Communities Recital Hall, free admission
• Tuesday March 5 - Small Groups In-Class Performance
• Late March (TBA) - York University Jazz Festival
  Time TBA, plan for 4:30-7:30pm
  Tribute Communities Recital Hall, free admission

Test Dates
• Thursday October 25 - Individual tests
• Tuesday December 4 - Video tests due
• Thursday February 7 - Pairs tests

GENERAL UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 9, 2018
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 8, 2019
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 8, 2019

Academic Policies / Information
The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:
York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
• Access/Disability
• Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
• Religious Observance Accommodation
• Student Code of Conduct

http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust20121.pdf

• Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
• Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling
• Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy

The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of
assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

• Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm
• Manage my Academic record http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/

• "20% Rule"

No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.
Moodle @ York University