EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
MUSIC
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Music Department
FA / MUSI 3053 3.0 SECTION A
JAZZ CHOIR III
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/21/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Provides instruction in jazz choral techniques and emphasizes the development of vocal performance skills within the jazz tradition. Note: The Jazz Choir meets from September to April. Continuation of FA/MUSI 2053 3.00. Prerequisite: Permission of the Instructor, by audition.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<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

Instructor: Mim Adams  adamsm@yorku.ca  647-200-4971
Coach: TBA

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 performances. 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.
• Rhythmic feel in various jazz styles.
• Melodic, lyrical and musical expression within the jazz genre.
• Improvisation techniques.

**Learning Activities**
• Full choir work: 4-8 pieces.
• Small group work: 1-3 pieces.
• Singing tests: perform excerpts of choir pieces individually and/or in groups.
• Sound check & concert: three public performances.

**GRADED ASSESSMENT**

• **Attendance, preparation 25%**
  Attendance is 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. Students are expected to listen to recordings posted on the course website, practice all music and techniques independently, and meet with sections/partners to practice outside of class. In class, students must arrive prepared, actively participate in all exercises, and demonstrate part/voice/skill improvement.

• **Singing tests 20%**
  Four individual and group tests TBA. 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. One test will involve making a simple video recording of yourselves singing.

• **Sound checks & concerts 55%** (November 20%, January 15%, March 20%)
  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 will be penalized 10% per class. 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. As an alternative to performing, 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/yujazzchoir
Includes general class information such as important dates, test requirements, and recordings. No grades will be posted on the site.

**Performance Dates**
• **Thursday November 21 - York University Jazz Festival**
  Tribute Communities Recital Hall. Soundcheck at 5pm. Concert 6:30pm.
• **Thursday January 9 - Lunchtime concert**
  Martin Family Lounge. Soundcheck at 11:45am. Concert at 12:30pm.
• **Thursday March 19 - York University Jazz Festival**
Tribute Communities Recital Hall. Soundcheck at 5pm. Concert 6:30pm.

**Test Dates**
- **Tuesday September 24 or Thursday September 26** (TBA)
- **Thursday October 24 or Tuesday October 29** (TBA)
- **Video Test to be submitted no earlier than December 27, no later than January 3**
- **Thursday February 6 or Tuesday February 11** (TBA)

**GENERAL UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: **November 8, 2019**
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: **February 3, 2020**
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: **March 13, 2020**

**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.

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

Moodle @ York University