Course Information
USA Campus Jazz Band
Semester: Fall 2014
Room: LPAC #1230
Credit Hours: .5
Meeting Day/Time: Tuesday/Thursday* 8:30-9:30pm
(*please be considerate that there is an orchestra rehearsal until 8:15 on this day)

Instructor:
Dr. Michael Phillips
Office: Laidlaw Performing Arts Center 1071
Office Phone: 460-7472
Office Hours: M-F 9:00-4:00
Email: michaelphillips@southalabama.edu

Course Description:
This ensemble is the study of jazz with an emphasis on styles, performance experience, literature and live performance. Rehearsals for the USA Campus Jazz Band are held Tuesday & Thursday from 8:30p.m. – 9:30p.m. in LPAC Rehearsal Hall. Sectionals will be determined as needed are considered group homework. Dress rehearsals will generally be held the day before a concert at the performance site. Each student is responsible for arranging their own transportation (and transportation for your music/ instrument) to rehearsals and performances. Performances are scheduled at least once each semester. Additional performances will be scheduled in advance to accommodate your schedule.

Pre-requisite:
Instrumentation for the USA Campus Jazz Band includes saxophones, trombones, trumpets and rhythm section. The USA Campus Jazz Band is a non-audition ensemble and open to all USA students. Performance experience on sax, trombone, trumpet, piano, bass, guitar, drum set, and vibes is preferred. Other instruments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Class Attendance:
Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals, sectionals, dress rehearsals, and performances. Excused absences will be considered only for verifiable illness, family emergency, or university sponsored (and excused) activities and will require written documentation. In addition, the jazz ensemble director must be notified personally by the student prior to the absence for it to be excused. **(Do not have another student tell me that you are going to miss rehearsal)**. Other reasons for absence (i.e. work, late study nights) are not acceptable. Punctuality at all rehearsals, sectionals, dress rehearsals, and performances is extremely important. Please be warmed-up and seated at 8:30 pm. Percussionists should arrive early and have all drumset equipment set up and be ready to play by 8:30 pm. Everyone is responsible to maintain their own folders of music and treated as a text that is brought to every class meeting.
**Individual Practice:**
Each student in the USA Campus Jazz Band should practice their parts outside of rehearsal time so they are prepared for each rehearsal. Rehearsal time is not the time to work out individual parts but is time used for working on group performance. A poor performance based on poor effort will have a negative impact on the student’s grade.

**Evaluation:**
Grades will be based on a 100 point scale (90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 59 and below = F). Grades will be determined by rehearsal preparation, achievement of sectionals, dress rehearsal and performance attendance, punctuality, and general contribution and preparation for the daily rehearsal. Each unexcused absence to a rehearsal or sectional will lower the final grade by 10 points. Absence from a dress rehearsal/performance will lower the final grade by 30 points. Each unexcused tardy to a rehearsal or sectional will lower the final grade by 5 points. Contact me prior to an absence/tardy for excused consideration. Absences/tardies will not be considered if contacted after the rehearsal. An absence from a performance will result in a failing grade unless extreme mitigating circumstances occur.

**Dress Rehearsal**
An evening dress rehearsal will be held during the week of the concert to perform a sound check and to run the program in its entirety. The dress rehearsal is mandatory for all members participating in the USA Campus Jazz Band. See the performance schedule for dates and times of the dress rehearsal.

**Performance Schedule:**
All dress rehearsal and concert dates are considered contractual. Any requests for additional performances will be submitted to the band and prior commitments will be honored.

**Dress Rehearsal/Performances Spring Semester 2014**
USA Campus Jazz Band Concert Schedule will be: TBA

**Concert Attire:**
Black dress pants, black dress shirt, black socks, and black shoes.

**Drug and Alcohol Policy**
The University does not permit the possession, consumption, or distribution of alcohol by an individual on any of its campuses and in any of its facilities except as designated. The possession, consumption, and/or distribution of illegal substances without a medical prescription are forbidden. Violation of either policy is subject to both University administrative action and criminal prosecution. See The Lowdown for a full description of the policy. Students who show up to a rehearsal, dress rehearsal or performance under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be subject to university administrative action and criminal prosecution.
Commitment to the Ensemble
Students who sign up for the Campus Jazz Band should be committed to the group. Unlike other classes, where absences and poor performance may only affect the grade of the individual student, the jazz ensemble is greatly affected by each student’s attendance record and performance preparation. It is expected that all students who enroll in the Campus Jazz Band be at all rehearsals on time, and to have their music prepared before the rehearsal.

General Procedure:
1. Music should be prepared prior to rehearsals. Rehearsals are for working on ensemble (i.e. blend, balance, precision, tone quality, intonation, etc.); not for working out fingerings, notes, and technical passages. Practice your jazz music every day!
2. If you are sharing an instrument with an individual in another ensemble, it is your responsibility to have that instrument available to the other person whether you are available or not!
3. Be respectful of all guest artists, guest conductors, and one another.
4. Bring a pencil to class every day for marking your part.
5. Work together! The ultimate goal is to be successful as an ensemble.

Music
You are responsible for your Campus Jazz Band music and music folder. If you lose these items, you will be charged for replacement. Sometimes, publishers will not sell replacement parts individually. Therefore the entire piece must be purchased. Your folder may contain as many as ten pieces and with music arrangements selling for approximately $45.00 each, a lost folder could cost you $450.00. So take care of your music and do not lose it!

Statement Regarding Students With Disabilities
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify me and provide certification from Disability Services (Office of Special Students Services). The Office of Special Students Services is directed by Ms. Bernita Pulmas and is located at 5828 Old Shell Road. The telephone number is 460-7212.

Changes in Course Requirements
Not all classes progress at the same rate thus course requirements might have to be modified as circumstances dictate. You will be given written notice if the course requirements need to be changed.
Academic Disruption Policy
The University of South Alabama’s policy regarding Academic Disruption is found in The Lowdown, the student handbook.
http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicdisruption.shtml
Disruptive academic behavior is defined as individual or group conduct that interrupts or interferes with any educational activity or environment, infringes upon the rights and privileges of others, results in or threatens the destruction of property and/or is otherwise prejudicial to the maintenance of order in an academic environment. I expect students to be cordial, courteous and respectful of faculty members and fellow students.

Student Academic Conduct Policy
The University of South Alabama’s policy regarding Student Academic Conduct Policy is found in The Lowdown http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicconductpolicy.shtml: The University of South Alabama is a community of scholars in which the ideals of freedom of inquiry, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of the individual are sustained. The University is committed to supporting the exercise of any right guaranteed to individuals by the Constitution and the Code of Alabama and to educating students relative to their responsibilities. The penalty for academic misconduct in this class will be a final grade of “F” in the course.

JagAlert
JagSuccess is a program intended to help students be successful in 100-200 level courses. If you are not doing well, you will receive an email instructing you to see your professor, along with instructions to access an online tutorial intended to help with common problems affecting academic performance. Watch for this email during week eight of this semester.