

# MUSL 1327, Jazz to Rock

Dr. Wilson, [swilson@utep.edu](mailto:swilson@utep.edu)

June 11-July 6

## Required materials:

- Students must purchase an access card to the course EBook through the UTEP Bookstore or online at <http://www.grtep.com/>
  - Once you have an access code, visit <http://www.grtep.com/> and enter it.
- A computer with internet access. As this is an online only course, students must have access to a computer with an internet connection. (High Speed is highly recommended as we will be listening to streaming MP3s.) If you plan on travelling during the semester, plan on either having your computer with you and ensure that you have access to the internet, or plan on getting your work done ahead of your trip.
- Napster Subscription (They have a 30 day free trial, our class is only 26 days start to end)

**Course Description:** A History of American popular music focusing on the development of Jazz and Rock music in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Course Prerequisite:** none.

**Course Objective:** This course seeks to give students an understanding of how popular music developed in the United States and advance their appreciation of the music.

**Course Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. be able to identify key developments in modern popular music.
2. be able to identify key styles in modern popular music.
3. be able to identify key artists in modern popular music.
4. be able to identify key components of listening examples, including instruments used, basic elements of form, and approximate time period of the example.

## Course requirements:

- Students must purchase an access to the EBook. Students will take two tests, several quizzes, participate in discussion board conversations, and complete four individual assignments
- **All deadlines will be strictly adhered to.** It is your responsibility to make sure all materials, quizzes, tests and discussion board postings are completed by the deadline. **No exceptions** will be given except for documented medical emergencies.

## Instructor Contact Information and Bio

Dr. Steve Wilson  
swilson@utep.edu

**For biographical information on Dr. Wilson, please visit the following url:**

<http://faculty.utep.edu/swilson>

## Grading:

The final grade will be determined by the following:

- **Discussion Board Postings (10%):** Students will participate in discussion forums over the course of the semester. Discussion boards are conversations that happen over time between students in the class. To ensure a meaningful discussion takes place with an even exchange of ideas between class members, **students may only post once per day for credit.** This means you will have to post on at least three separate days to receive full credit. This allows other people the opportunity to read and respond to ideas presented and keeps people from posting at the last second. Students will be graded on completing the correct number of entries per discussion (3 entries per discussion board), the quality of the posts including grammar and spelling and reading fellow students' posts. Since there are a large number of people in the class, I don't expect students to read all posts, but I do expect students to read about 100 or so per discussion board. **Not following the guidelines above will result in large grade deductions on this assignment.**

Topics:

1. Jazz Heritages: What factors made New Orleans ripe for the birth of jazz? Your answer should include issues such as geography, ethnic/social scene, and life before electronic devices. Due June 15.
  2. Race and Popular Music: What role did race have in the start of Rock and Roll? What is different about race and popular music today? Due June 29.
- **Jazz and Rock Style Guides (25%):** Students will create a guide for select styles of jazz and rock. Details including an example on Blackboard. Jazz version due June 22. Rock version due July 6.
  - **Quizzes (25%):** There will be quizzes on the reading assignments for the week. Each quiz will have a 25 minute time limit and will have 33 questions. Quizzes will be taken on the eBook website. You will have unlimited attempts on these and I will take your highest grade.
  - **Tests (40%):** There are two tests in this class as follows:
    1. Jazz Test, (Available 6/21-6/22)
    2. Rock Test, (Available 7/05-7/06)
    3. Each test will have a 50 minute time limit and contain 50 questions. You may only take the test once.

Statements on Academic Honesty and Accessibility are posted at:

<http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintq.htm>; <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>

## **Jazz to Rock Class Schedule**

Week 1 (6/11-6/15):

Read the syllabus

EBook Reading/Quizzes

- Read Jazz: Chapters 1-6 (Basic Elements of Jazz through Cool School)
- Suggested: Take Jazz Quizzes 1, 2, 3
- Start working on Jazz Style Guide Assignment
- Deadlines for the week: I suggest all students complete Jazz Quizzes 1, 2, 3 by Friday, 6/15 by midnight.

Week 2 (6/18-6/22)

- Read Jazz: Chapters 7-11 (Hard Bop through Recent Trends)
- Take Jazz Quizzes 4, 5, 6
- Discussion Board Assignment 1
- Jazz Style Guide Assignment
- Jazz Test (Available 6/21-6/22)
- Deadlines for the week: Discussion Board 1, Jazz Quizzes 1-5, Jazz Style Guide Assignment, and the Jazz Test are due by Friday, 6/22 by midnight.

Week 3 (6/24-6/29):

- Read Rock: Beginning through Chapter 6 (The Harder Edge of Rock in the Seventies)
- Suggested: Take Rock Quizzes 1, 2, 3
- Start Working on Rock Style Guide Assignment
- Deadlines for the week: I suggest completing Rock Quizzes 1, 2, 3 by Friday, 6/29 by midnight.

Week 4 (7/02-7/06):

- Read Rock: Beyond Soul through Nineties and Beyond
- Take Rock Quizzes 4 and 5
- Discussion Board Assignment 2
- Rock Player Style Guide Assignment
- Rock Test (Available 7/05-7/06)
- Deadlines for the week: Rock Quizzes 1-5, Discussion Board Assignment 2, Rock Style Guide Assignment, and the Rock Test are all due by Friday, 7/06 by midnight.