



University of Wisconsin  
**Whitewater**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JAZZ CERTIFICATE (12 UNITS)**  
**UW-WHITewater DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMUNICATION**

Jazz, America's own Classical music tradition, is a field with distinctive musical practices (particularly instrumental and vocal styles, and a rich art of improvisation). As some upper-division Improvisation and Arranging classes require Music Theory as prerequisite, the Certificate would be open exclusively to Music majors and minors. It would be most valuable as additional training for BA Music and BM Performance students, but it may also be attractive as an additional elective for BM Music Education students, providing them with additional skills in an increasingly competitive job market. This may also prove to be attractive for music teachers returning to seek additional certification.

How to declare:

Students wishing to add the certificate may do so by declaring it in consultation with the Department Chair. Note that certificates do not show up on your AAR. When you have completed the coursework, the Certificate will be added to your degree by College of Arts and Communication Advising Coordinator at the time of graduation, and will appear on your UWW transcript. Note that it is the student's responsibility to communicate during their final semester the fact that they are completing a certificate: this should be communicated to both the COAC Advising Coordinator and the Music Department Advising Coordinator.

[NOTE: as of April 2018, when this document was being updated, the University was considering a change in policy that would allow students to officially declare certificates and have them appear on the AAR – check with the Music Department Advising Coordinator to see if this applies to you.]

Goals:

- Fluency in various Jazz performing styles and Jazz improvisation.
- Knowledge of Jazz composition and arranging.
- Working knowledge of the history of Jazz and its significance in American culture.

Coursework:

Much of the coursework in the Certificate will “count” towards other Music degree requirements, and thus it does not necessarily mean a full 12 additional credits added to your study at UWW. It is designed so that a student will meet the goals of the Certificate, while allowing some flexibility. Students complete the certificate by taking the following classes:

**1. 5-7 credits MUSC 164 and/or MUSC 277**

The Certificate includes at least five semesters of enrollment in Jazz or Vocal Jazz performing ensembles. It is possible for a student to enroll in more than one section of MUSC 164 in a single semester.

- MUSC 164 *Jazz Ensembles* (1 cr.). Repeatable: Jazz Ensemble I, Jazz Ensemble II, Jazz Labs.
- MUSC 277 *Vocal Jazz* (1 cr.) Repeatable

**2. 2 credits MUSC 344**

*History of American Jazz* is an upper division survey that integrates history and musical analysis of Jazz styles.

- MUSC 344 *History of American Jazz* (2 cr.) Prereq: MUSC 151 and MUSC 152 or instructor consent.

**3. 1-2 credits MUSC 458**

Students must take at least one semester of *Jazz Improvisation*.

- MUSC 458 *Jazz Improvisation* (1 cr.). Prereq: MUSC 152 and audition or instructor consent

**4. 2 credits MUSC 459**

This course will give the students the basic elements of Jazz arranging and composition.

- MUSC 459 *Jazz Arranging and Composition* (2 cr.). Prereq: MUSC 251 or instructor consent

**5. 0-2 credits may be selected from: MUSC 452, MUSC 461, MUSED 467**

One or two of these courses may be included in the Certificate to ensure a breadth of Jazz-related experience. MUSED 467 is also a degree requirement for some BM Instrumental Music Education majors.

- MUSC 452 *Electronic music and Sound Design* (2 cr.). Prereq: MUSC 152 and audition or instructor consent
- MUSC 461 *Advanced Jazz Improvisation* (1 cr.). Repeatable. Prereq: MUSC 458 or instructor consent
- MUSED 467 *Jazz Pedagogy I* (1 cr.) Prereq: MUSC 252 or instructor consent.