

## **B.M. in Jazz Studies**

### **Website/Portfolio Project**

The purpose of this project is:

1. To create a website/portfolio that is representative of the work you have done as a student, artist, educator, and as a member of the community
2. To engage with extracurricular tasks (such as copyrighting a piece of music or producing a show) that will help you to develop professional skills not otherwise covered in class

This project is recommended for all of our jazz studies majors, but only required at the discretion of each studio instructor.

The following is a timeline of when each aspect of this portfolio could be reasonably completed throughout your four-year degree, along with short descriptions.

#### **Freshman year**

- a. End of Fall term
  - i. Create a website
  - ii. Set up a gig calendar (posted on website)
- b. End of Winter term
  - i. Add short bio to website
  - ii. Add professional photo to website
- c. End of Spring term
  - i. Add recording and/or video of performance to website

Audio/video recordings may be professionally produced, or of “rough” quality. If you are publicly posting audio/video of school groups, faculty approval is needed. Students may upload school audio/video to their website as long as they are otherwise “unlisted” or “private” on YouTube.

#### **Sophomore Year**

- a. End of Fall Term
  - ii. Extended Biography & press photos
- b. End of Winter Term
  - iii. Copyright a piece of music
- c. End of Spring Term
  - iv. Post example of scholarly writing
  - v. Additional recording and/or video of performance

To demonstrate that you have copyrighted a piece of music, you may turn into faculty your copyright registration form and the “deposit copies” of your work.

- If you also wish to have your copyrighted material represented on your website or in your portfolio, you could list it in a curriculum vitae, or post the composition for sale in your website’s “scores & parts” store

While you could post any example of scholarly writing to fulfill this requirement, for the purposes of this project it may make the most sense to post something music-related. You may post it to your website as a blog or as a downloadable pdf - or in some other way that makes sense to you. If you’re not sure what to write about, some possibilities include:

- a. it could be a written lesson
- b. a solo transcription & analysis
- c. a research paper on a related topic

## Junior Year

- a. End of Fall Term
  - i. Combo Score & Recording
- b. End of Winter Term
  - i. Teaching Video
- c. End of Spring Term
  - i. Post performance video  
(if your website already has a performance video, you may submit an additional audio recording if you wish - however, *everyone's* website should have a video posted by this time)
  - ii. Produce a live gig

Your teaching video will likely be of a private lesson, unless you have the opportunity to do some sectional coaching or lead an ensemble rehearsal. If you don't have private students, ask your friends around the UO SOMD to find someone willing to be your student in the video so you can work on your teaching.

- The purpose of the teaching video is for you to review it and learn from it, but successful teaching videos are useful (or necessary) when applying for jobs. If you get an outstanding teaching video, hold on to it, and also consider uploading it as a private YouTube video or on a hidden page of your website that you can link to later with potential employers.

In Eugene, both the Jazz Station and Roaring Rapids Pizza are open to hosting student-led performances in a jazz setting. With that said, you may or may not choose to produce a jazz gig. Instead, this project should fulfill your interests and set you up for future success.

If you want to have your produced show represented on your website (besides simply adding it to your calendar) or in your portfolio - consider posting/including the following:

- The poster or any other promotional materials you created
- Audio or video from the performance
- Post or link to any other press (especially positive reviews) your show received

## Senior Year

- a. End of Fall Term
  - i. Big Band Score & Recording
- b. End of Winter Term
  - i. Documentation of Community Service/Service Project
- c. End of Spring Term
  - i. "TED" talk video
  - ii. Produce someone else's recording/video session

You get to choose your community service project, as well as how to document it, if that makes sense. The real purpose of the assignment is to imagine the impact you want to have in your community, and to take action!

The "TED Talk" video may be a short teaching/speaking video with a live audience or a class (like the "TED Talk" videos you can find online), but a short video mini-lesson would also suffice. It is up to you whether you want to post it online or not, but this task will help you practice public speaking, organizing your thoughts, and creating a clear and concise statement on a topic of your choosing.

Producing someone else's recording/video session is one of the more difficult tasks to complete out of the entire portfolio, because usually, someone else must *ask you* to be involved. However, your role in their project may be as limited or as expansive as needed for the project. A couple of examples:

- If asked to help produce a recording session where there is already a sound engineer, you may function as an extra pair of ears in the engineer's booth - someone who can listen and give feedback to the artists after each take
- If asked to help produce someone's video, you may be the person organizing the camera operators or articulating the "vibe" that you and the artist want to capture with each shot

One of the reasons to produce someone else's project is to learn the communication skills and collaborative skills needed in the professional world. It will also provide you the opportunity to work on aspects of creative projects other than performance.