University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Strange Fruit: A subjective history of jazz (mostly American), PG_00206238		
Field of study	Cultural Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	3	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Culture Studies -> Institute of Culture Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Grzegorz Piotrowski, prof. UG	
	Teachers	dr hab. Grzegorz Piotrowski, prof. UG	

Lesson types							
	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						

Learning activity and number of study hours					
	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30	2.0	18.0	50

Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the history of American jazz understood as the evolution of styles and artists - in the broad context of American culture (including customs and politics) and music technology, with particular emphasis on emancipatory and minority aspects.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[KULL3_W04] Student has general knowledge about social, philosophical, and historical issues that form the foundation for reflection on culture and art.	The student has systematic knowledge of the cultural, political, social and historical contexts of jazz in the United States.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[KULL3_K03] Student correctly identifies and resolves problems related to the cultural studies profession, whether specializing in cultural criticism and popularization, cultural animation, or electronic media culture and website editing.	The student correctly recognizes the value of the American jazz heritage and is able to popularize it.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[KULL3_W05] Student has specific knowledge in the areas of cultural anthropology, cultural history, popular culture, indigenous cultures, regional studies, museum studies, and religion. Additionally, they have specialized knowledge in a chosen professional field.	The student is fluent in recognizing the stylistic varieties of American jazz, is able to characterize them and interpret the work of selected artists.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW5] implementation of a problem task
[KULL3_U01] Student conducts searches, analyzing, evaluating, and selecting information using various media while respecting intellectual property.	The student is proficient in searching for information about phenomena in the field of American jazz.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[KULL3_U06] Student prepares written papers in Polish and a chosen foreign language on issues related to culture and art, based on various sources and current literature in the field.	The student prepares interpretive exercises on selected aspects of American jazz.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU6] demonstration of practical skills
[KULL3_U07] Student prepares oral presentations and discussions on topics related to culture and art, including collaborative work within a team.	The student prepares presentations on selected aspects of American jazz.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

1. The Origins and Specificity of Jazz
2. Varieties of Traditional African-American Music
3. Jazz in New Orleans
4. Jazz in New York and Chicago at the Beginning of the 1920s
5. The Swing Era
6. The Human Voice as a Medium of Jazz
7. Bebop and Its Artists
8. Charlie Parker
9. Bebop I: Cool
10. Bebop II: Hard Bop
11. Great Jazz Experiments of the 1960s
12. John Coltrane
13. Fusion
14. Does Jazz Music Have a Gender and a Color?

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Presentation	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	• Gridley Mark C., Jazz Styles. History and Analysis, New Jersey [or] Boston [any ed.]. • Niedziela Jacek, Historia jazzu. Sto wykładów, Katowice 2009. • Schmidt Andrzej, Historia jazzu, Lublin 2009.
Supplementary literature	Miniseries "Jazz" by Ken Burns etc.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

What is Charlie Parker's innovation?

Work placement

Not applicable

Document generated electronically. Does not require a seal or signature.