

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
JACKSON COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
MASTER OF MUSIC – JAZZ STUDIES
Performance or Commercial Music Production Majors
Brian Gorrell, Graduate Advisor – updated August 2009

The Master of Music in Jazz Studies is a specialized program allowing the student to concentrate in a traditional performance option or commercial music production (instrumental or vocal). Both options develop a high level of performance proficiency in jazz and commercial music styles and expand creative skill, pedagogical practice, composition, arranging, and music technology at a more comprehensive level than can be obtained on the undergraduate level.

This program meets the need for a graduate course of study preparing students for successful careers in the jazz and commercial music industry. Many skills needed in commercial music production are closely related to skills needed in jazz improvisation, composition, and arranging. Two areas of specialization allow students to focus primarily on the performance or production of jazz and commercial styles culminating in either a graduate recital or the completion of a graduate CD album.

I. Admission Essentials for the Master of Music in Jazz Studies:

- A. Hold an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution.
- B. Schedule a meeting with Graduate Advisor (Brian Gorrell) to discuss the program. Mr. Gorrell can be reached via e-mail at bgorrell@uco.edu or by phone at (405) 359-7989 x 278.
- C. Apply for admission to the **Jackson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS)**. Forms are available online: <http://www.uco.edu/graduate>

Note: No student will be admitted to this program or to the Jackson College of Graduate Studies who does not meet the program admission standards of an overall GPA of 2.50, or 2.75 GPA in the last 60 hours attempted.

- D. Take the Entrance Advisory Examination in Jazz Studies and perform an audition on your primary performance medium (instrumental or vocal). This must be done prior to attending classes. Information regarding the exam and audition is given below.
- E. Following the Entrance Advisory Examination, meet with Mr. Gorrell to work out a formal plan of study. A copy of this plan should be filed with the JCGS no later than the end of the second week of classes.
- F. Any prerequisites and deficiencies for the Master of Music in Jazz Studies degree as outlined in the formal plan of study are to be completed as soon as possible.

II. Entrance Advisory Examination in Jazz Studies

The required Entrance Advisory Exam is given the week prior to the start of the semester. Students must take this exam prior to attending classes as overall academic qualifications are being assessed. The exam includes tests in jazz theory & analysis, aural skills, keyboard proficiency, music history, and arranging. A passing grade of 70% is required for each test. Students falling below 70% may make up deficiencies in one of two ways: Retake the test and score a passing grade or enroll in course(s) as recommended by the graduate advisor and make a B or better. Note: Deficiencies must be removed prior to the Comprehensive Final Exam.

III. Audition

All candidates must perform an audition on his/her primary applied instrument or voice to determine program eligibility. Candidates should plan to present a 15-20 minute audition. An accompanist is not required for instrumental auditions. Vocalists should bring either an accompanist or appropriate backing-tracks. Candidates should consult with the graduate advisor regarding music selection and other specific expectations.

IV. Graduate Advisory Committee

At the beginning of the second year of study every candidate for the Master of Music in Jazz Studies shall select an advisory committee consisting of the Graduate Advisor (Brian Gorrell), the candidate's primary applied music instructor, and one additional full-time faculty member. The Advisory Committee shall serve as jury for the candidate's graduate recital or completed CD album, evaluate the graduate portfolio, and administer the final comprehensive oral examination.

V. Final Comprehensive Oral Examination

Every candidate for the Master of Music in Jazz Studies must, at the conclusion of all coursework, pass a final comprehensive oral examination during finals week. Candidates must provide a graduate portfolio in triplicate to all three members of their committee no later than the Friday before finals week. The graduate advisor will provide specific information regarding portfolio contents. A grade of 80% is required to pass the examination. Students not at the 80% level will be required to complete additional studies/research as mandated by the committee.

VI. Graduate Recital (Performance) or Graduate CD Album (Commercial Music Prod.)

In addition to the final comprehensive oral examination, every candidate for the Master of Music – Jazz Studies, Performance Major must perform a graduate recital. The Advisory Committee must approve all material performed on the graduate recital. The Advisory Committee must also attend and approve a preview recital scheduled no later than two weeks prior to the actual recital date. The graduate recital must be comprehensive and represent a variety of styles in jazz with a minimum length of 60 minutes. The recital must include at least one selection composed by the candidate and the candidate must arrange all selections. The recital must be professionally recorded and a copy submitted to the graduate advisor no later than 10 days after the recital.

In addition to the final comprehensive oral examination, every candidate for the Master of Music – Jazz Studies, Commercial Music Production Major must complete a graduate CD album. The Advisory Committee must approve all material included on the finished album. The completed CD album must be commercial viable and mixed/mastered to an acceptable standard with a minimum length of 45 minutes. A minimum of two tracks must be composed by the candidate. All tracks must be solely arranged and produced by the candidate. All tracking, overdubs, editing, mixing, and mastering must be completed by the candidate utilizing technology available at the UCO Jazz Lab or within the School of Music.

VII. Master of Music in Jazz Studies Curriculum

A. Major in Performance	
1. Ensemble Participation:	6 credits
To be chosen from Jazz Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Orchestra, Choir, or other ensembles approved by the Graduate Advisor. For at least two semesters, candidates must participate in two concurrent ensembles. Jazz Ensemble is required every semester.	
2. Applied Music (primary instrument/voice):	8 credits
3. Applied Jazz Improvisation:	4 credits
4. Jazz History:	3 credits
5. Computer Music Technology:	2 credits
Available only in Fall Semesters	
6. Jazz & Commercial Music Arranging:	3 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
7. Arts Management:	3 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
8. Jazz Pedagogy:	3 credits
Available only in Fall Semesters	
9. Graduate Jazz Recital:	2 credits
Minimum Requirements for Major in Performance:	<hr/> 34 credits

B. Major in Commercial Music Production	
1. Ensemble Participation:	6 credits
To be chosen from Jazz Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Orchestra, Choir, or other ensembles approved by the Graduate Advisor. For at least two semesters, candidates must participate in two concurrent ensembles. Jazz Ensemble is required every semester.	
2. Applied Music (primary instrument/voice):	4 credits
3. Applied Jazz Improvisation:	4 credits
4. Jazz History:	3 credits
5. Computer Music Technology:	2 credits
Available only in Fall Semesters	
6. Jazz & Commercial Music Arranging:	3 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
7. Arts Management:	3 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
8. Advanced Recording Technology:	3 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
9. CD Album Pre-Production:	2 credits
Available only in Fall Semesters	
10. CD Album Production:	4 credits
Available only in Spring Semesters	
Min. Requirements for Major in Commercial Music Prod:	<hr/> 34 credits

**SAMPLE PLAN OF STUDY
MASTER OF MUSIC – JAZZ STUDIES
PERFORMANCE MAJOR**

Note: This sample is based on full-time enrollment (9 hours minimum per semester) and will result in 3 credit hours more than is needed to meet degree requirements.

Fall 1st year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Additional Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Computer Music Technology (Fall only):	2
Electives:	2
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Total:	9 credits

Spring 1st year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Additional Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Jazz & Commercial Music Arranging (Spr. only):	3
Elective:	1
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Total:	9 credits

Fall 2nd year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Jazz History:	3
Jazz Pedagogy:	3
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Total:	10 credits

Spring 2nd year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Arts Management (Spr. only):	3
Graduate Jazz Recital:	2
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Total:	9 credits

TOTAL COMPLETED GRADUATE CREDIT HOURS: 37

**SAMPLE PLAN OF STUDY
MASTER OF MUSIC – JAZZ STUDIES
COMMERCIAL MUSIC PRODUCTION MAJORS**

Note: This sample is based on full-time enrollment (9 hours minimum per semester) and will result in 3 credit hours more than is needed to meet degree requirements.

Fall 1st year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Additional Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Computer Music Technology (Fall only):	2
Jazz History:	3
Total:	<hr/> 10 credits

Spring 1st year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Additional Ensemble:	1
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Jazz & Commercial Music Arranging (Spr. only):	3
Advanced Recording Technology (Spr. only):	3
Total:	<hr/> 9 credits

Fall 2nd year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Applied Music:	2
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
CD Album Pre-Production (Fall only):	2
Electives:	3
Total:	<hr/> 9 credits

Spring 2nd year:

Jazz Ensemble:	1
Applied Jazz Improvisation:	1
Arts Management (Spr. only):	3
CD Album Production (Spr. only):	4
Total:	<hr/> 9 credits

TOTAL COMPLETED GRADUATE CREDIT HOURS: 37