Jazz Ensembles At Tufts
Frequently Asked Questions

Can one register and participate in a Jazz Ensemble if one is not a music major?
One does not have to be a music major to be placed in the jazz ensembles.

Will priority be given to Music Majors when placed in a Jazz Ensemble?
The audition process is open to all Tufts students, and priority for placement in a Jazz Ensemble is not given to music majors.

How does one find out about the auditions for the Jazz Ensembles?
Go to the Tufts University Website for the department of Music. Contact one of the Jazz Ensemble Directors from the list below.

How many Jazz Ensembles exist at Tufts?
The Jazz Ensemble at Tufts Consists of the following:

1 Small Jazz Ensemble  Music 78  (Ahlstrand)
1 Jazz Orchestra  Music 77  (Smith)
3 Chamber Jazz Ensembles  Music 89 section 02 or N2  (Michelin)

What is the instrumentation of the various Jazz Ensembles?
• The Small Jazz Ensembles consists of a full rhythm section, 4-6 horns and 1 singer.
• The Jazz Orchestra consists of 5-6 saxophones, 4-5 trombones,4-5 trumpets, full rhythm section, miscellaneous percussion and 2 singers.
• The 3 Chamber Jazz Ensembles consist of a full rhythm section, 2-3 horns and 1-3 singers.

What are the Times of Each Jazz Ensemble?

Small Jazz Ensemble, Music 78 (Ahlstrand) (section 1)
• Monday, 6:45-9:45pm.

These groups generally perform one major concert, per semester (fall and spring) in the Fisher Performance Room. There is usually one additional off-campus performance given by one or all of the small jazz ensembles per semester. The additional off-campus concert is performed at the discretion of each Ensemble Director.

Chamber Jazz Ensemble, Music 89 section 02 or N2 (Nando Michelin)
6 meetings, on: Thursdays
  a. 6-7:30pm
  b. 7:30-9pm
Fridays
  c. 5-6:30pm
Nando Michelin - World-class pianist, composer, arranger and educator, coaches the Chamber Jazz Ensembles. These classes focus on 1-2 horns and a singer, performing with a rhythm section. This class provides the student the opportunity to explore improvisation in a format that has a smaller instrumentation. Thus, the role of the rhythm section and one’s immediate relationship to that section is explored on a grander scale. This class meets once a week for an hour and 30 minutes. The Chamber Jazz Ensembles perform one concert per semester in Distler Hall.

Tufts Jazz Orchestra, Music 77 (Joel Larue Smith)

- Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-6:30pm

Please see separate information sheet concerning the Jazz Orchestra description.

Please feel free to contact the Ensemble Directors concerning further questions.

Here are the emails for the Ensemble Directors:

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