

**AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**  
Undergraduate and Transfer Students

**Bachelor of Music – Jazz Emphasis**

**General Audition Information**

Each prospective freshman and transfer major must perform an acceptance audition in his/her major area of performance (Jazz) before a Jazz Faculty representative or committee. This audition will consist of those requirements as outlined below for each instrument. A prospective student in the Bachelor – Jazz Emphasis Program must have received an official letter of acceptance from the School of Music before he/she may register as a music major. Any questions regarding the BM- Jazz Emphasis may be directed to Mr. Dana Landry, Director, Jazz Studies Program, 970-351-2253 or [dana.landry@unco.edu](mailto:dana.landry@unco.edu)

Audition materials should demonstrate the applicant's musical and technical ability and be representative of his/her present stage of development and potential for growth. Undergraduate transfer applicants should follow the guidelines for freshmen but present repertoire of greater difficulty. Pieces should demonstrate the highest musical, technical and stylistic levels which the student has attained. For questions regarding audition requirements for each instrument, please contact the professor listed under that instrument.

**Jazz Saxophone**

Dr. Andrew Dahlke Phone: 970-351-2000 E-mail: [andrew.dahlke@unco.edu](mailto:andrew.dahlke@unco.edu)

1. Perform something in a jazz style, i.e. jazz etude or transcription.
2. Play the melody (head) and improvise one or two choruses with a live or recorded background on:
  - a) A blues (medium or up-tempo)
  - b) A standard tune (walking bass and tempo of your choice).
  - c) A tune in a contrasting style of your choice (i.e. ballad, Latin, funk/groove, etc.)
3. Jazz sight-reading will be provided at the audition.
4. Major Scales
5. A short classical selection (movement or etude) which demonstrates musical and technical ability.

**Jazz Trumpet**

Dr. Robert Murray Phone: 970-351-2285 E-mail: [robert.murray@unco.edu](mailto:robert.murray@unco.edu)

1. Perform a non-improvised jazz selection, i.e. a jazz etude or transcription that demonstrates knowledge of style and articulation
2. Play the head and improvise one or two choruses with a live or recorded background on:
  - a) A blues (medium or up-tempo)
  - b) A standard tune (walking bass and tempo of your choice)
  - c) A tune in a contrasting style of your choice (i.e. ballad, Latin, funk/groove, etc.)
3. All major scales - two octaves on C, F#, G, Ab, A, Bb, B
4. Two brief selections from standard repertoire that demonstrate lyric and technical abilities
5. Sight-reading

**Jazz Trombone**

Dr. Nat Wickham Phone: 970-351-2813 E-Mail: [nat.wickham@unco.edu](mailto:nat.wickham@unco.edu)

1. Perform something in a jazz style, i.e. jazz etude or transcription

2. Play the melody (head) and improvise one or two choruses with a live or recorded background on:
  - a) A blues (medium or up-tempo)
  - b) A standard tune
  - c) A tune in a contrasting style of your choice (i.e. ballad, Latin, funk/groove, etc.)
3. A classical solo or etude of your choice that demonstrates contrasting musical styles and technical ability
4. Major Scales in as many keys as you can play
5. Sight-reading will be provided at the audition

### **Jazz Piano**

Mr. Dana Landry Phone: 970-351-2253 E-mail: dana.landry@unco.edu

1. Prepare 3 contrasting pieces from the standard jazz repertoire. Play the melody and improvise over the form.
2. Play a medium or up-tempo blues and improvise over the form.
3. Demonstrate the ability to comp over changes from your chosen pieces.
4. Perform major scales and arpeggios in four octaves.
5. A classical selection that demonstrates musical and technical ability.
6. Demonstrate sight-reading ability.

### **Jazz Guitar**

Mr. Matt Fuller Phone: 970-351-2577 E-mail matt.fuller@unco.edu

1. Perform something in a jazz style, i.e. solo arrangement of a jazz tune or transcription
2. Play the melody (head) and improvise one or two choruses with a live or recorded background on:
  - a) A blues (medium or up-tempo)
  - b) A standard tune
  - c) A tune in a contrasting style of your choice (i.e. ballad, Latin, funk/groove, etc.)
3. Demonstrate ability to “comp”, or accompany soloists in the following styles:
  - a) Swing (medium or up-tempo)
  - b) Latin
  - c) Ballad
  - d) Funk/groove
4. Perform selected major and minor scales in 3 octaves
5. Sight-reading will be provided at the audition

### **Jazz Bass**

Mr. James Vaughn Phone: 970-351-2352 E-Mail: james.vaughn@unco.edu

The ability to play acoustic bass is not a prerequisite for acceptance as a jazz emphasis bass major, but is required to successfully complete this degree program. Jazz bass emphasis majors must supply their own instruments & related equipment.

### General Requirements

1. Minimum of 3 different major, harmonic minor and melodic minor scales – 2 octaves.
2. An etude or solo that demonstrates both technical and lyrical playing (with bow).
3. Sight-reading will be provided at the audition.
4. There will be an aural skills test administered to evaluate your ability to match pitch vocally and recognition of basic chord types (i.e. major, minor, diminished, augmented).

### Jazz Requirements (for either acoustic or electric bass)

1. A standard 12 bar jazz blues: play the head (tune/melody), walk for 1 chorus & solo for 1 chorus.
2. Blue Bossa: perform in a bossa nova style.

3. Autumn Leaves (in 4/4 time): Play in broken time or two feel for 1 chorus and walk for 1 chorus.
4. Selection of your choice.
5. Your choice of an example of a rock/funk, Latin or fusion groove.  
(The student may provide recorded samples of his/her ability to perform in a rhythm section. No more than 3 – 4 minutes per example is necessary.)
6. Sight reading: Demonstrate ability to construct bass line from a standard lead sheet with chord changes.

### **Jazz Drumset**

Mr. Jim White      Phone: 970-351-2314      E-mail: james.white@unco.edu

All percussion students auditioning for the Jazz studies program must perform the following at the scheduled audition:

#### General percussion requirements

1. A rudimental snare drum solo
2. A concert snare drum solo
3. A mallet piece (either two mallet or four)
4. A timpani piece (optional)
5. Demonstrate sight-reading ability

#### General jazz requirements

1. Demonstrate knowledge of various styles including the following:
  - a) Slow jazz ballad with brushes
  - b) Medium swing
  - c) Up-tempo swing
  - d) Bossa Nova
  - e) Jazz samba
  - f) 16<sup>th</sup> note funk feel
  - g) 8<sup>th</sup> note rock feel
  - h) Jazz waltz
2. Demonstrate improvisational ability by playing a 12 bar blues in the following manner: play a chorus of time in a “swing” feel, followed by three or four choruses of solo over the form, followed another chorus of time.
3. Demonstrate sight-reading ability.

Jazz studies applicants are encouraged to send in a recording (CD or cassette tape), which demonstrates his or her ability to play with a jazz ensemble (either big band, small group, or both).

