

The great majority of the jazz ensemble auditions involve sightreading. Any new freshmen or graduate trumpet, sax or trombone students should prepare a jazz etude, transcribed solo, bebop head or something similar that will show us their swing eighth conception and technical facility. We also want to hear people improvise if they are comfortable doing so. They can pick a standard tune or a blues to play over and we will provide a pianist to accompany them. Saxophone players should bring any woodwind doubles that they have.

Rhythm Section Auditions will consist entirely of sightreading and improvising. Drummers should be prepared to interpret a big band drum part, inserting appropriate kicks and fills and should also be able to demonstrate a variety of styles, including Latin grooves, funk, ballads and different time signatures. A set and amplifiers will be provided but drummers should bring sticks, brushes and their own cymbals. Pianists, bassists and guitarists will be asked to interpret chord symbols, providing appropriate comping chords and bass lines as well as reading written lines and voicings.

Audition sign ups will be posted on the Jazz Bulletin Board outside the Rehearsal Hall by the middle of August