

DEPARTMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

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READING LIST

Course Title: Discovering Jazz
Location: Ewert House, Oxford
Term Dates: 24 Feb 2026 to 24 Mar 2026
Tutor: Stephen Kershaw

The reading list below was supplied by the course tutor.

If you have enrolled on a course starting in the autumn, you can become a borrowing member of the Rewley House library from 1st September. If you are enrolled on a course starting in other terms, you can become a borrowing member once the previous term has ended. For example, students starting in January can join the Library in early December and those starting in April can join in early March.

If you are planning to purchase any books, please keep in mind that courses with insufficient students enrolled will be cancelled. The Department accepts no responsibility for books bought in anticipation of a course running.

Preparatory Reading List

The items on this list are to give you some background to the materials and ideas that we will be covering on the course.

Author	Title
Appel, A	<i>Jazz Modernism: From Ellington and Armstrong to Matisse and Joyce</i>
Blumenthal, Bob	<i>Jazz: An Introduction to the History and Legends Behind America's Music</i>
Davis, Miles with Troupe, Quincy	<i>Miles. The Autobiography</i>
Russell, Ross	<i>Bird Lives! The High Life and Hard Times of Charlie (Yardbird) Parker</i>
Shipton, Alyn	<i>A New History of Jazz</i>
Ward, Geoffrey C. and Burns, Ken	<i>Jazz: A History of America's Music</i>

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The items on this list are to support your learning while you are taking the course.

Author	Title
Abbott, L. & Seroff, D.	<i>Out of Sight: The Rise of African American Popular Music 1889-1895</i>
Alkyer, F	<i>DownBeat – The Great Jazz Interviews: A 75th Anniversary Anthology</i>
Berton, R	<i>Remembering Bix</i>
Carr, I	<i>Miles Davis. The Definitive Biography</i>
Christensen, Bonnie	<i>Django</i>
Ellington, Duke	<i>Music is My Mistress</i>
Giddins, G	<i>Riding On A Blue Note: Jazz And American Pop</i>
Gourse, Leslie	<i>Art Blakey's Jazz Messenger</i>
Haydon, G	<i>Quintet of the Year</i>
Hershorn, Tad	<i>Norman Granz: The Man Who Used Jazz For Justice</i>
Kahn, A	<i>Love Supreme. The Creation of John Coltrane's Classic Album</i>
Kahn, A	<i>Kind of Blue. The Making of Miles Davis Masterpiece</i>
Kelley, Robin D.G.	<i>Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original</i>
Lomax, Alan	<i>Mister Jelly Roll (</i>
Lyttleton, Humphrey	<i>The Best of Jazz</i>
Mingus, C	<i>Beneath the Underdog</i>
O'Day, Anita with Eell, George	<i>High Times, Hard Times</i>
Porter, Lewis	<i>John Coltrane: His Life and Music</i>
Rothschild, H	<i>The Baroness. The Search for Nica, the rebellious Rothschild</i>
Shapiro, Nat and Hentoff, Nat	<i>Hear Me Talkin' To Ya, the Story Of Jazz As Told By The Men Who Made It</i>
Shipton, A	<i>Buddy Bolden and the Last Days of Storyville</i>
Shipton, A	<i>The Art of Jazz</i>
Szwed, John F.	<i>Space Is the Place: The Lives And Times Of Sun Ra</i>
Tye, Larry	<i>The Jazzmen: How Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Count Basie Transformed America</i>