**Texts/Materials:**
1) Crook, *How To Improvise* (@ UBS)--reference only
2) Washut, *Syllabus for Beginning Jazz Improvisation* (@ Copyworks)
3) Aural transcription CD (student provides a blank CD)

**Objectives:**
1) To develop basic skills and concepts related to improvising in the jazz idiom
2) To acquire a basic repertoire of jazz tunes (emphasis on blues heads)
3) To learn how to listen effectively to recorded jazz performances

**Test Dates and other due dates:**
1) Listening report September 2
2) Playing quizzes as announced
3) Mid-term playing exam October 16
4) Final playing exam December 9
5) Transcribed solo due December 11
6) Aural transcription assignments (blues heads) as announced

**Topics/Activities:**
1) Basic jazz harmony (see text, pp. 48-53): chord construction and notation, chord-scales (text, pp. 53-54), guide tones and harmonic lines (see text, pp. 48-53)
2) Developing a "time-feel" concept (see text, pp. 32-34): learning to use the metronome
3) Ear-training activities (see activities listed at the end of each chapter of the text):
   a) developing a concept of jazz phrasing and articulation (see text, pp. 17-22)
   b) developing the ability to play by ear (including transcriptions of various heads)
   c) developing musical memory (call & response "dictation" activities)
   d) developing the ability to transcribe recorded solos
4) Scale/pattern studies:
   a) minor pentatonic, blues--major and minor, major, dorian, and mixolydian/bebop
   b) basic digital patterns
   c) harmonic outlines
5) Learning/memorizing tunes:
   a) transposition to other keys
   b) playing changes @ keyboard
   c) playing bass lines
6) Listening concepts

**Tune types to be studied:**
1) Blues tunes (various "heads" in keys of F, Bb, and Eb): horizontal and vertical approaches
2) Bird Blues--progression and head(s): II-V and II-V-I in major and minor

**Grading:**
The course grade will be a composite of "pop" playing quizzes (20%), listening report (5%), mid-term playing exam (25%), final playing exam (25%) and solo transcription project (25%). (Note: Graduate credit requires 2 transcriptions or extra project approved by the instructor.)

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