First session topics

- Intervals, chords, scales
- Sample improvisation:
  - Embellishing, playing off melody
  - Playing from chords
- Dominant harmony
- Call-response exercise
- “Now’s the Time”
  - Listening to: Charlie Parker, Art Blakey
  - Analysis (Blues in F)
  - Guide tones
  - Playing
Music 84
Spring 2002
Assignment 1
For next meeting
Assignment 1

• Set up your notebook (see below)
• Locate places where you can listen and play.
• Listen for at least one hour to at least three different artists that are new to you; next class be prepared to discuss briefly.
• Work on improvising over the tune “Now’s the Time”, particularly on the F7 and Bb7 chords with corresponding scales.
• Learn to play the solo given in the book.
Your Notebook

• Throughout this course, maintain a notebook on your jazz activities. It will have the following sections:
  - Listening activities
  - Playing activities
  - Theory notes
  - Repertoire
  - To-Do list
Notebook Grading

• Your notebook will be considered in forming your grade for the course.

• Your notebook will be returned and you can use it in subsequent semesters, if applicable.
Listening activities

• Keep a record of your jazz listening.
• Note as many of the following things as possible:
  - Date of activity
  - Source (CD, radio, live, ...)
  - Artist
  - Group
  - Tunes
  - Comments and observations (style, liked, didn't like, ...)
• I realize that it might not be possible to capture all of these, depending on circumstances, but try.
• You should listen for at least one hour per week.
Playing Activities

• Make notes on your jazz playing:
  - Date
  - Location
  - Things you did
    • Exercises (scales, arpeggios, licks, …)
    • Experimentation
    • Play-along
    • Jam session
    • Performance

• You should be playing at least 2 hours per week, not including class.
Theory Notes

- These are notes from class and notes you take from other resources.
- They can include things such as chord and scale spellings, notes about resolution, tune forms, and so on.
Repertoire

• Your repertoire is your list of jazz tunes on which you can play reasonably, preferably without using music.
• You should constantly be trying to expand your repertoire.
To-Do List

• This is a list of ideas and concepts on which you wish to work when time is available.

• Later on, some of these items should appear in your playing list.
Listening Sources

Here are some places you can find jazz locally:

- F.M. Station KLON 88.1 (Free!)
- Pomona Music Library, Thatcher Hall, has a large drawer of CD’s. You must listen to them there. (Free!)
- Rhino Records has used (and new) CD’s for sale
- Border’s Books and Music in Montclair has new CD’s
- The world-wide-web has a lot of jazz MIDI instrumentals. (Free!) You need a computer that plays MIDI. Some mp3’s are also available, I guess.
- Nick’s café Sunday night (Free!), The Press Restaurant.
- Consult L.A. Times Calendar on Sunday for weekly jazz concerts and clubs.
Play-along Sources

- Get together with friends
- Play along with CD’s you own or borrow
- Buy play-alongs from Aebersold or other
- Get Band-in-a-Box. (You need a computer and MIDI synth.) It will play any song with you, in any tempo, key, and style. It will also compose jazz solos or entire songs.