

# **Graduate Jazz Diagnostic Exam Study Guide**

## **Jazz History**

**Be prepared to discuss the following topics:**

- 1. Cultural and musical elements of early jazz.**
- 2. Economical and musical factors of jazz during the “Big Band Era.”**
- 3. Key elements and performers of the “Be-bop Era.”**
- 4. Radical changes in jazz during the 1960’s.**
- 5. Pioneers and innovators in the different jazz eras or subgenres of this art form (New Orleans, Swing, Be-bop, Modal, etc).**
- 6. Identify well known jazz recordings, including title, composer, and performer(s).**

## **Jazz Theory & Aural Skills**

- 1. Review common jazz chord progressions, including Rhythm Changes, all types of Blues and tunes that modulate to the subdominant.**
- 2. Know jazz chord-scale relationships.**
- 3. Chord Dictation: Listen and write the correct chord symbol in close position voicing and its correspondent pitches.**
- 4. Be able to transcribe a given melodic line in the jazz idiom.**
- 5. Be able to compose a solo-type line in the jazz idiom over a set of changes.**
- 6. Be able to compare and identify errors in a given jazz melody as compared with a given recorded performance of it.**