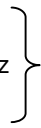


MUSIC 390
Assignment # 8 – Blues Composition

Compose a 12-bar blues in either a major or minor key of your choice (using the appropriate key signature) utilizing one of the four following format styles:

For the chords

- 1. Basic
- 2. Standard Jazz
- 3. Bebop*



Refer to "the blues" link on the syllabus for these formats

- 4. Your own, as long as the I(i), IV(iv) and V (or sub) are in the standard measure locations:

Chord	Measure
I(i)	1
IV(iv)	5
V	9 & 10
or...ii → V (or sub)	9 → 10

For the melody

You are free to do as you wish, but are encouraged to use the motivic approach outlined in "the blues" link: extensively utilizing a one-to-two measure motif that corresponds with the chord changes in an obvious manner.

*If you choose the bebop format (as exemplified in "Blues For Alice"), you will need to handle the motif more freely and not necessarily as obviously.

Optional (for fun!): add lyrics—your own or borrowed (in which they must be cited)

Notation (NEATNESS COUNTS)

Use the attached manuscript page (or if you use blank staff paper, leave a blank system between your grand staff systems to allow for chord symbols to be easily inserted).

Give it a title.

On the grand staff, notate your melody in the treble clef, notate the chords in the bass clef (root position versions of the chord are fine) and write the chord symbols ABOVE the staff. See the partial example below.

April Fools Blues

Music & lyrics by JK

The image shows a partial musical score for 'April Fools Blues'. It is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef contains chord symbols: F7, Bb7, F7, and a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'A - pril fools _____ gives me the blues _____ 'cause I wish it were _ June _____ etc...'. The notation includes eighth and quarter notes in the melody and whole notes in the bass clef.

