

WEB-based Videos in Group Piano Teaching

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The effectiveness of group piano has recently been challenged. While the authors have a demonstrated level of success in their program, the criticism invites an assessment of the strength and weaknesses of this teaching and learning environment.

The piano lab layout is not conducive to visual modeling, an important component of learning to play the piano. As millennial students rely more heavily on visual sources for information, a solution to this flaw becomes urgent. The authors' remedy is the creation of online video clips.

Taking advantage of current technological opportunities, video clips emphasize kinesthetic elements of piano playing through teacher modeling. The video format reinforces students' visual learning style. The constant availability of the video clips online further provides the opportunity for repeated viewing and offers students unlimited guidance outside of class.

The online distribution method is compatible with developing trends such as music and video downloads. The popularity of online course management software has made students accustomed to acquiring course information online. Piano labs now have access to computers and the Internet, creating an environment that invites in-class use of these videos.

Although primarily aimed at teachers of group piano at collegiate levels, this presentation will also be beneficial for independent piano teachers. The authors will demonstrate how WEB-based videos and their supplementary online resources can be an effective tool for teaching the functional skills generally taught in group piano classes. The authors will make some of their videos available for download.

Session abstract:

This session demonstrates the use of online videos in group piano teaching. Videos allow teacher modeling, reinforce students' visual learning style, and the WEB based format offers unlimited guidance outside of class.