

Using Distant Learning Platform for Musical Instrument Instructor Training

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to examine the productivity of distant instructor training program for musical instrument education. Music education, especially on playing musical instruments, has been one of the major topics of general education. Today, formal musical instrument education is available in conservatories and music departments of fine arts and education colleges, and informal or non-formal musical instrument education is available in private music schools and courses in Turkey. Recorder or melodica is taught in public schools as part of the general music education. There are number of different platforms to teach musical instruments where there is need to train teachers to do that in the needed quality. There are various applications of online teacher training for instrument education. For example, Northwestern University and University of North Carolina have been offering courses over Coursera (a major MOOCs provider), such as Teaching Violin and Viola, Fundamentals of Rehearsing Music Ensembles. Different from our program they do not provide direct contact with the instructor for feedback. A group of well-experienced instructor trainers of the Anadolu University including myself established a distant instructor-training program for musical instruments. This paper will explain and explore the stages of the program's creation and its effectiveness.

Keywords: Instrument, Teaching, learning, distant learning, musical instruments, teacher training