Striving for Excellence in Online Pedagogy:
Characteristics of Expert Teachers Using the Video-Conferencing Format
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Characteristics of Effective Online Teachers
1) Understand the nature of this new lesson setting
2) Pay attention to the setup of both you and the student
3) Help students become more independent
4) Be organized
5) Improve your technological setup as you gain more experience
6) Use creative, interesting and vivid verbal analogies and descriptions
7) Be effusive with your enthusiasm and passion
8) Address body alignment and a healthy playing technique

Why Teach Online?
• Expand market of potential students
• Increase flexibility
• Incorporate technology

Getting Started
• Quiet space, piano, laptop or tablet device, stand, strong and reliable internet connection
• Clear view of playing posture and face
• Skype, Facetime, Zoom or Google Hangouts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Advantages (continued)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Expand studio offerings</td>
<td>• Teacher reflection and pedagogical enhancement</td>
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<td>• Offer opportunities to students who don’t have access to qualified piano teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Convenience</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Choice of teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Student independence</td>
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<td>• Refer back to lesson videos</td>
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<table>
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<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Lack of physical presence</td>
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<td>• Can be difficult to build personal rapport</td>
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<td>• Latency causing delay of sound</td>
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<td>• Difficult to evaluate tone quality</td>
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Lesson Documentation
• Assignment notebook – shared Google Doc
• Lesson Recordings - additional benefit of this lesson format; to share with students, store files on a shared storage cloud (eg. Dropbox or Google Drive) or upload to Youtube with privacy/unlisted setting and share link

Resources

Equipment Ideas

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Edifier speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tablet stand - <a href="http://a.co/6RDcqpL">http://a.co/6RDcqpL</a></td>
<td>R 1280T - <a href="http://a.co/7J9iw6g">http://a.co/7J9iw6g</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Snowball microphone - <a href="http://a.co/2CXAX38">http://a.co/2CXAX38</a></td>
<td>R1700BT - <a href="http://a.co/6HHeYsY">http://a.co/6HHeYsY</a></td>
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### Software Suggestions

<table>
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<th>Apps</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ecamm – record lessons on Skype and Facetime Website: ecamm.com</td>
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<td>Superscore or ForScore – view manage and interact with your digital scores; Apple store</td>
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<td>Internet Midi – connects two MIDI instruments; Website: timewarptech.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Concert Xtreme – provides digital accompaniment using MIDI files; follows the pianist; Apple store</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superscore or ForScore – view manage and interact with your digital scores; Apple store</td>
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<tr>
<td>iRealPro – provides backing tracks and chord charts for popular music; Apple and Android</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Online Resources

- **Podcasts broadcast by Tim Topham**
  - Shirley Kirsten – lesson set up: https://timtopham.com/online-piano-teaching/
  - Shirley Kirsten – online teaching blog: https://youtu.be/VhfRTde-ZWE
  - Mario Ajero - comparing Skype, Facetime and Google Hangouts: https://youtu.be/dly2rdkC3-M
  - Setting up for Skype lessons by Brenda Hunting: https://youtu.be/6tlFxFBRBk4
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  - Setting up for Skype lessons by Brenda Hunting: https://youtu.be/6tlFxFBRBk4
- **Shirley Kirsten**
  - lesson set up: https://www.pianopedagogues.com/single-post/2018/02/14/Setting-up-for-Skype-Lessons
- **Shirley Kirsten**
  - online teaching blog: https://rioso7.wordpress.com
- **Mario Ajero**
  - comparing Skype, Facetime and Google Hangouts: https://youtu.be/sXtC4csq1XI
- **Setting up for Skype lessons by Brenda Hunting**
  - https://timtopham.com/online-piano-teaching/
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### Selected Bibliography


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