INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC EDUCATION

Feldman, Contzius

- Teacher-centered approach
 - *Direct Instruction
- **&**Constructivism
 - Discovery Learning

- **❖**Teacher-centered approach ∼ Direct Instruction
 - *Hunter's 7 principles (think of this in terms of a lesson plan)
 - 1. Hook relate to prior learning/students' experience
 - 2. Objectives What students should know and be able to do
 - 3. Plan for teaching the objectives
 - 4. Demonstration of the process and product
 - 5. Check for understanding Formative assessment
 - 6. Guided Practice
 - 7. Independent Practice

- Constructivism ~ Discovery Learning
 - *Ed theorists argue that in order to learn students must respond to something - be actively engaged...teachercentered instruction treats students passively
 - Students "construct" meaning by discovering new knowledge
 - Develop an "attitude of learning" problem solving
 - The teacher sets up the tools needed for the discovery process

What are ways the band class can use both approaches?

- Physical Space
- Evaluate the Ensemble Needs and Characteristics
 - Strengths and Weaknesses
 - **Numbers**
- **Set-Up Principles**
 - 1. Volume of instruments for audience
 - 2. Volume for players (individual & by section)
 - 3. Spacing of chairs
 - 4. Blend
 - 5. Always be flexible

- **Specifics**
 - *Quiet instruments in front
 - Similar parts together...or not...
 - *Timbre and Blend
 - *Bass instruments
 - *Percussion

- *Percussion
 - Need room for players to move
 - Snare, Bass, Cymbals in middle
 - *Mallets closer to audience
 - Auxiliary instruments up high

Let's design the JSC Band Set-Up...

JSC Band Design

- Intrinsic and Extrinsic Motivation:
 - ★ Ideally all rewards are intrinsic
 - Students want to behave, focus, participate, practice, learn because music is its own reward
- **Extrinsic** motivators
 - ✓ Rely on external factors to be motivated

- **Extrinsic** motivators
 - √ Grades, prizes, praise, privileges
 - **✓** Competition
- *Do extrinsic rewards undermine intrinsic motivation?
- Praise and Encouragement

- Praise and Encouragement
 - *Intrinsic or extrinsic?
 - *Sincerity
 - * Your best compliment...
 - *Avoid competitive praise
 - *Encouragement builds self-confidence and self-esteem
 - *"Every misbehaving child is discouraged"

- The Challenge System
 - *Pros and cons...
- **Success** Breeds Success!
 - **♦**For Motivation
 - ♦...and for PR

- *"Feeder" program
 - Not only important in own right
- ❖ When to start
 - *Caution: don't just adopt what you are used to
 - **&**Considerations
 - Begin when developmentally correct
 - Drop-out rates, 6th graders "catch up" to younger beginners
 - Lessons only or band class?
 - Staffing maintain jobs or "right size"

- Frequency of rehearsals and lessons
 - *"Pull-outs"
 - Competing with other activities
 - *What is educationally most effective?

- *Balanced Instrumentation
 - *Does it matter?
 - *Can you control it?
 - Core beginner instruments:
 - Flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, (sax, percussion)
 - Transition to others (if interested, appropriate size & difficulty)

*Recruiting

- Announcements, letters to parents, teachers, program info
- ❖ Teacher/student presentations
- ❖Instrument preferences/aptitude/timbre prefs
- ❖Instrument "petting zoo"
- Fitting, choices (top 1 or 3)
- *Rental programs, donations, budget implications
- Cultural relevance of band program (vs. other ensembles)

&Beginning Instruction

- **Scheduling**
 - Like-instrument groups preferable
 - Consistent schedule frequency (pull-outs, before school, etc.)
 - Transition to larger groups if necessary
 - First lesson (or 2) needs to be longer (intro, assembly/disassembly, cleaning, etc.)

- *Beginning Instruction
 - Choosing Method Book
 - Reviewed in Instrumental Techniques
 - SmartMusic
 - Sound to Symbol method
 - Jump Right In, Do It!

- **Beginning Instruction**
 - Habits of Musicianship
 - · Method books and tunes are only the "vehicle"
 - Goal: Play Musically
 - Can beginners do it?
 - Need to try to

- Switching after the first year
 - Moving kids for balance
 - Switching to "harder" instruments
 - Who switches (choice or need?)
 - Depleting "best" players
 - Parental support

*Retention

- *Problems
 - Time, Activity conflicts
 - Difficulty, Fear of failure
 - Academic problems
 - Parental support

*Retention

- **Solutions**
 - Encouragement!
 - Perform!
 - Avoid conflicts, Communication with teachers, coaches, parents
 - Involve Students & Teachers 4-12 ("Band Day")

- Fundraising
 - *Ethics, Pros & Cons
 - *Individual vs. Group activities
 - Individual vs. Group sales
 - **♦**What to sell
 - Products, Services

- *Parent Organizations
 - For Fundraising
 - Advocacy
 - General Support (Chaperones, "manpower", transportation)
 - *How formal should the organization be?

- Promotion (PR)
 - For Concerts
 - Press releases
 - Email
 - Calendars
 - Newsletters, Flyers, Posters (Print & Digital)
 - Social Media

Advocacy

- ❖Is there a need to justify music program's existence?
- *Is there a need to promote its success?
- *Don't ever complain!
 - Identify problem and solutions
- Perform Showcase the ensemble

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 1 An Introduction to Sound-to-Symbol

Language

- Listening
- Speaking

- Reading
- Writing

Music

- Listening
- Speaking
 - Singing
 - Moving
 - Playing by ear
 - Saying rhythm patterns
 - Singing tonal patterns
 - Improvising
- Reading
- Writing

- Music Learning Approaches
 - *Relate "General Music" to Instrumental
 - Kodaly
 - Suzuki
 - Gordon
 - Orff

*****Kodaly

- *Experience before notation
- **❖**Folk music
- Melodic & rhythmic patterns to teach musical language
- Singing and movement games
- Start early
- *A cappella singing
- ❖Musical literacy → Musical independence
- **♦**Solfege and rhythm syllables
- Child centered

- **Suzuki**
 - *Begin very early
 - *Listen to music being studied
 - Private lessons
 - Everything memorized (theory is that's like language)
 - Introduce notation after music is memorized

- ❖Music Learning Theory (Edwin Gordon)
 - *Audiation ("hear" sound in the mind and give it meaning)
 - · Sound only becomes music through audiation
 - **♦**5 Stages
 - 1. Aural (hear) & Oral (perform)
 - 2. Association connect patterns with syllables
 - 3. Synthesis connect sounds with meaning
 - 4. Symbol associate sounds with notation
 - 5. Composite audit and read or write simultaneously

- **O**rff
 - ♦ Holistic (well-rounded) & natural
 - ♦ Active music making —> Play!
 - ♦ Use of instruments and singing/movement
 - Exploration, Imitation, Improvisation, Composition
 - **❖**Sound before symbol
 - **Solfege**
 - ❖No prescribed specific approach or method

- *Adopting Sound-to-Symbol
 - * Very different from "traditional" "band methods"
 - *Resistance
 - I didn't learn that way
 - Pressure from others
 - Lack of music reading skills

- *Adopting Sound-to-Symbol
 - *Benefits
 - Audiation creates better musicians overall
 - Better hearing
 - Is student-centered
 - Student hears error and corrects

- *Adopting Sound-to-Symbol
 - Combine approaches
 - Sequential learning is best but real life doesn't work that way!
 - Flexibility is key
 - Always question & assess your decisions and methods

♦What are:

Audiation

*Pulse

• The "beat"

*Pattern

Repeating sequence

*Meter

Repeating sequence of beats

Hearing music in your mind

- *Rhythm and movement
 - Muscular system's perception of rhythm
 - Connection between musical motion and physical motion
 - ❖Part of the brain that guides movement also regulates timing and tracks the beat

- Movement in Instrumental Classroom
 - Upper body movement
 - Conducting as movement
 - Move to externalize musical expressiveness

- *Rhythm Syllables
 - How it sounds not looks
 - *Each subdivision receives unique syllable
 - Syllables are easy
 - Works for simple and complex rhythms
 - Suitable for all levels of education

*Rhythm Syllables

- Kodaly Ta-ta-ti-ti
 - Suitable for lower levels no complex rhythms
- Takadimi Ta-ka-di-mi
 - Beat oriented patterns that sound the same but look differently use the same syllables

*Rhythm Syllables

- Counting system 1 & 2 e + a
 - Beat oriented also keep track of meter suitable for older students
 - Difficulty with triplet subdivisions
- Gordon du-du-de-du-da
 - Like Takadimi but all subdivisions receive different syllables

*Rhythm Words

- Learn words not individual letters
 - Learn by ear not reading
 - See a pattern and know it
 - No need for individual "spelling"

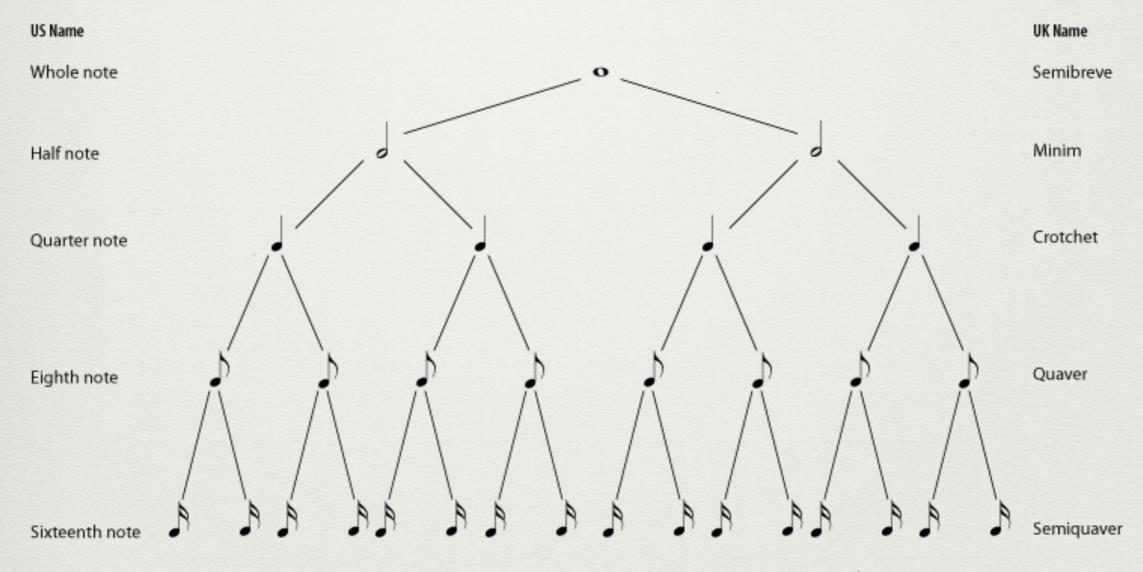
Flashcards

- Rhythm Words
 - Externalize pulse and meter (tap/clap)
 - Hear and repeat on neutral syllable
 - Hear and repeat with syllables
 - Hear neutral syllable repeat with syllables
 - Reading the flashcards

&Beaming

- To make patterns easier to read
 - Th eco wjum pedover thef ence
 - The cow jumped over the fence

*Rhythm theory



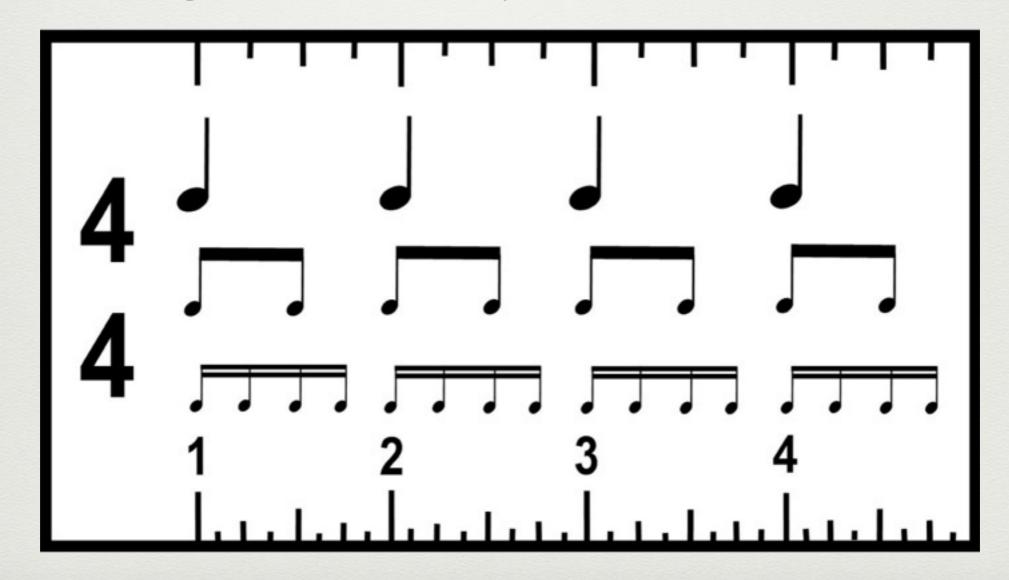
The pattern continues with the thirty second note (demi-semi-quaver), A and the sixtyfourth note (the hemi-demi-semi-quaver),

*Rhythm theory

- Whole note receives any number of counts
- Half note receives half the number of whole
- Quarter note receives quarter the number of whole
- Etc...

*Rhythm theory

• Time signatures are rhythm rulers



*Rhythm theory

- Subdivisions
 - Externalize the subdivision
 - 1 e + a 2 e + a *or* ta-ka-di-mi ta-ka-di-mi
 - Internalize the subdivision
 - 1(e + a) 2(e) + a, etc...

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 3 Tonality, Melody and Singing

Tonal Understanding

- · Can play an instrument without it
- Need to hear (audiate) sounds in relation to tonality
 - Same as hearing rhythm in relation to pulse and meter
- Hear groups of notes (melodic "words")

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 3 Tonality, Melody and Singing

Tonal Understanding

- Teaching melodic words
 - Establish tonality
 - I-V-I progression, scale degrees 1-5-1-7-1
 - Sing tonic before playing
 - s-m-s-m...s-l-s-m, s-ml-s-m, etc...

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 3 Tonality, Melody and Singing

Tonal Understanding

- Singing in rehearsal
 - stronger connection to intervals
 - Improved intonation
 - Voice is flexible & expressive
 - Involve entire ensemble

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 4 Teaching Improvisation and Composition

Improvisation

- The ultimate sound before symbol
 - Same as language
- Start with musical words
- Musical sentence
 - Repetition Tempo & rhythmic variation Dynamic changes Modify musical words (major to minor) Ornamentation Note emphasis Dissonance (tension/release)
- Other musical fundamentals
 - Form (ABA, etc.)

Instrumental Music Education
Chapter 4
Teaching Improvisation and Composition

Composition

- Invent limits (parameters)
 - Form
 - Limits
 - Rhythmic complexity
 - Melodic content
 - Collaboration

- *Repertoire is like an ensemble's textbook
 - Music replaces textbooks
 - Same music/different music?
 - Concepts (curriculum) stay the same
- Lincoln:
 - "If I had 8 hours to chop down a tree I'd spend 6 sharpening my ax."

*Appropriate repertoire:

- Provides means to learn essential concepts
- Keeps ensemble engaged
- Enables succesful performances
- Vehicle to perform ART
 - But this requires quality literature

Concert programming

- Balance
- Difficulty level
- Audience presentation (appeal)
- Technical considerations (beyond difficulty)

- *CMP (Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance)
 - History & Style
 - Historical periods
 - Cultural styles
 - Compositional techniques
 - Form, Structure & Theory
 - Interdisciplinary Topics (Humanities, Science, Language)
 - Connection to other arts

- Evaluating Difficulty Level
 - Rating Scales
 - 1-6
 - B-VE-E-ME-M-MA-A
 - Ranges
 - Lead parts, lower parts
 - Brass (especially trumpets), Woodwinds (especially clarinets)

- Evaluating Difficulty Level
 - Part interest
 - Part Independence
 - Contrapuntal density
 - Voicing density
 - Doubling

Evaluating Difficulty Level

- Adjusting Scores
 - Re-score for other instrument
 - Simplify
 - Use ringers...?
 - Double parts

*Pop Music?

- "Why can't we play...?"
 - Quality!
- Pop music as a gateway to learning
- Student choice

Macro-Micro-Macro

- Like studying a screenplay
- Macro (Phase 1)
 - Composer's notes
 - "Architecture"
 - Form, themes, changes (tempo, key, etc.)
 - Melody, accompaniment, counterpoint, etc.

*Macro-Micro-Macro

- Micro (Phase 2)
 - Deconstruction of the piece
 - Harmonic analysis
 - "Lead sheet" version
 - Realize the sound of the score
 - Realize the orchestration

*Macro-Micro-Macro

- Micro (Phase 2)
 - Conductor/teacher:
 - Is composer's advocate
 - Makes connections for students
 - Uses information to rehearse effectively & efficiently

Macro-Micro-Macro

- Macro (Phase 3)
 - Interpret the music
 - Develop "conductor ears"
- Conducting gestures (interpretive dance!)
- · Be careful about listening to recordings

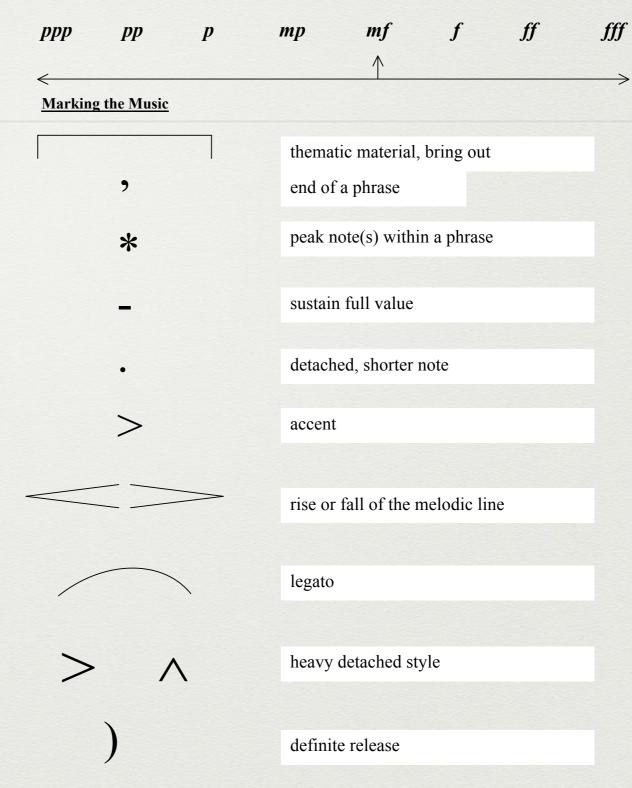
- Marking the Score
 - *Pencil, colors...
 - Cues
 - Meters
 - Transitions
 - Phrasing
 - Rhythmic patterns (2's and 3's)

- Marking the Score
 - •Colored pencils to color code dynamics e.g. a. Blue -pp or p
 - •Red -for ff
 - Brown -mf
 - •Green -mp
 - •Felt-tip or "highlighter" for thematic materials
 - •Pink -primary themes
 - •Blue -secondary themes
 - Highlighting soloists
 - •Inverted L-shape marks for entrances

- Marking the Score
 - Abbreviations for instrumentation
 - Percussion symbols/icons
 - Notation of equipment changes
 - Triangles and vertical lines for 3's and 2's
 - Brackets to indicate new sections
 - Phrasal analysis by measure in bottom margin
 - Editorial markings and corrections in Black, Bold felt-tip
 - Use of margins and empty space -to reinforce meter changes, marking new sections, marking additional editorial, interpretive, and programmatic notes, illustrating chords and clusters, etc.
 - Be careful not to turn score into a "roadmap" or "graffiti billboard"

EXPRESSIVE MARKINGS

Find a good *mezzo forté* sound and then gradually work towards the others.



Based on material from Nilo Hovey, Efficient Rehearsal Procedures, Selmer Co.

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 12 Rehearsals

- Macro-Micro-Macro (again)
 - *Repairing a car
 - Run engine find problems & diagnose
 - Stop engine examine, repair/replace parts
 - Restart engine Assess engine performance

Instrumental Music Education Chapter 12 Rehearsals

- Macro-Micro-Macro (again)
 - ❖Isolate problems (try to anticipate)
 - Deconstruct to show how it is put together
 - Then put back together

- **&**Communicating
 - *Who—Where—What?
 - Who are you addressing
 - Where in the music
 - · What do you want them to do
 - "Trumpets Letter A Staccato"

&Communicating

- Large group
 - "Everybody-Letter A"
- Smaller group
 - "Saxes-Measure 1,005"
- Individuals
 - "Bassoon-Louder, please"
 - "Henrietta-great job!"

&Communicating

- I vs. We or the composer/arranger
 - I want it to be quieter (adversarial, teacher centered)
 - We need to play quieter (inclusive, collaborative)
 - Hazo calls for ppp

&Engagement

- **♦**Whole ensemble
 - Questions about specifics to entire group
 - Answer with hand symbols (fingers, thumbs up, etc.)

Percussion

- Create alternate parts
- Doubling (quietly or on pads)
- Rotate players
- Have them help others with rhythms

- *Rehearsal planning
 - **♦**Warm-up
 - New concepts
 - *Review
 - *Refinement
- Flexibility
 - Listen and react

- *Rehearsal planning
 - Warm-ups, tuning, sight-reading
 - Notes & Rhythms
 - Dynamics & Articulation
 - *Balance & Intonation
 - Musicality

- *Effective rehearsing
 - *Pacing, intensity, detail
 - Be efficient
 - Know what you want to accomplish
 - Be able to make decisions on the spot
 - Listen for common problems

- *Differentiated instruction
 - Large ensembles=variety of students
 - Small group instruction (sectionals)
 - Spiral curricula
 - Concepts can be taught at all levels

- *Rehearsal Thesaurus
 - Successful tactics
 - Observe others
 - *Exchange ideas
 - **Experiment**
 - **&**Be proactive

- Analogies and Metaphors
 - *"Tidal wave of sound"
 - *"Play like dancing ballerinas"
 - But...avoid if "play louder" will work

*Yours:

- Crescendo
- Play lightly
- Play smoothly

- *Marking the music
 - Students need to mark theirs like you mark the score
 - Much to mark from circling to counting, to looking up, to who to listen for, to tuning...
 - Listen to recording and make marks
- Practice time should mirror ensemble rehearsal

- ❖Mix it up!
 - Student conductor
 - No conductor
 - Silent rehearsal
 - Change seating
 - Sections or individuals play for the group

- ❖If you know you are out of tune why not fix it?
- ❖If "tuning note" is in tune what about the rest?
- *How to play in tune?
 - Awareness of pitch discrepancy
 - Physical skills (ability to adjust instrument)
 - Theoretical understanding
 - Instrumental pitch tendencies

- Awareness of pitch discrepancy
 - Less experience (and attention to) intonation than melodic and rhythmic accuracy
 - **Experiment:**
 - 2 tuners: 440—441—442, etc...
 - *Defining sound of sharp and flat
 - Analogy of color (dark-dull, bright...)

*Acoustics

- Tuning & Temperament
- Making adjustments
 - Equal temperament—700 cents per 5th
 - Just temperament—702 cents per 5th
 - Not a temperament...pure intervals

Drones

- Audiate pitch centers
- Use to practice tuning intervals
- *Tone
 - *"Fix tone before intonation"
- Compensate for dynamics and articulation

- *Tuning the ensemble
 - Using a tuning note only tunes one note!
 - Provides a "ballpark"
 - Use a couple —Bb, F, (A for strings)
 - ❖Tuner for one person—others use ears
 - *Which instrument to tune to:
 - Oboe (very clear tone and pitch)
 - Tuba (from the bottom up)

- Tuning the ensemble
 - *Hard for individuals to hear in group "on/off"
 - *Humming/singing
 - Amplified pitch (drone)
 - *Re-tune mid rehearsal
 - Isolate sections

- Tuning the ensemble
 - *Hard for individuals to hear in group "on/off"
 - *Humming/singing
 - Amplified pitch (drone)
 - *Re-tune mid rehearsal
 - Isolate sections

& Curriculum

- ♦ What is "a" curriculum?
 - Guidelines for what we want kids to know and be able to do.
 - Semester, year, multi-year, school-wide, district-wide...
 - Does not constrict how & what to teach!
 - Benchmarks what kids should know, when

- **Assessment**
 - *NOT grading
 - *Answers the question:
 - How do we know if kids know and can do what we want them to?
 - *Formative assessment
 - **Summative** assessment

Assessment

- ❖Instrumental assessment when & how?
 - Individually
 - Smartmusic
 - Recorded playing
 - In lessons
 - In pairs or small groups

Assessment

*Rubrics!

- Elements of performance
 - Note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, intonation, markings, articulation, dynamics, tempo & beat, tone quality, expression

- **Assessment**
 - Practice charts
 - Pros and Cons
 - **Self-assessment**
 - What is the value?
 - *What about behavior, attendance and participation?

- **&**Grading
 - *What is the difference between assessment and grading?
 - What is the value of grading?
 - ❖Merit/Demerit grading systems
 - Additive or subtractive points
 - Competency grading
 - Comparing to a standard
 - Progress grading
 - Individual growth