

## MUSC 438 Teacher Interview Assignment

Interview a music teacher to tap into her/his practical knowledge of contemporary issues in music education.

- Identify a suitable interviewee (someone you think you can learn something useful from)
- Think about what, exactly, you hope to learn from this person. What is the knowledge the person has that you would like to share in? (*How do you engage 21<sup>st</sup> century learners? How do you incorporate student-centred pedagogy? What technology do you use in your classes? What genres of music do you engage with? How do you assess? How do you differentiate? How do you approach global musics? Etc.*) Construct a list of questions that will help you to get the data YOU need to help you be the kind of music educator you want to be
- Record and transcribe the interview.
- Analyze the transcript to identify significant understandings (themes, or chunks of useful knowledge) concerning contemporary music teaching. Highlight salient quotations to use in the report.
- Write a report (approx. 3000 words) that
  - a) identifies, organizes and presents what you have learned from the teacher then
  - b) discusses how you will apply this knowledge to your own teaching (implications for practice.)
- Where appropriate, discuss your findings and implications in relation to relevant literature (from this course or elsewhere), e.g. if the teacher describes students making musical decisions, connect to literature that addresses student-centred learning. 2-4 references are appropriate.
- Construct the paper to report your findings as follows:

*Section A—Background:* Begin by introducing the teacher-participant in your research. Provide the context for the information you are about to share—what is the nature of the participant’s music-teaching experience? Facts but also your personal perceptions/stories of this person are appropriate.

*Section B—Findings:* Communicate your findings. Do NOT copy and paste the interview transcript. Instead, synthesize key aspects of the educator’s knowledge, quoting from the interview where appropriate to provide evidence of the themes (aspects of teaching knowledge) that you have identified.

*Section C—Implications for Practice:* Discuss how you or other music educators might use what you have learned and described here to inform teaching practices.

### Assessment Rubric

Did the report contain sufficient context for the reader to make sense of the information presented?

<b>A</b> insightful rich contextualization	<b>B</b> rich contextualization	<b>C</b> some contextualization	<b>D</b> very little contextualization
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Has sufficient useful data been collected to advance understanding of music teaching?

<b>A</b> absolutely	<b>B</b> yes	<b>C</b> some more needed	<b>D</b> a lot more needed
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Has the interview been thoroughly analyzed with key aspects of teacher knowledge identified and thoughtfully unpacked?

<b>A</b> absolutely	<b>B</b> yes	<b>C</b> to some extent	<b>D</b> a lot more needed
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Are useful and practical implications for teaching synthesized and communicated?

<b>A</b> absolutely	<b>B</b> yes	<b>C</b> to some extent	<b>D</b> a lot more needed
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Are findings and implications discussed in relation to relevant literature?

<b>A</b> a lot of meaningful connection to lit	<b>B</b> some meaningful connection to lit	<b>C</b> a little connection to lit	<b>D</b> no connections to literature
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Communication: Is the report clear, well-written, effectively organized, and error-free?

<b>A</b> ready for publication	<b>B</b> for the most part	<b>C</b> some problems	<b>D</b> serious problems
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