

Using Computers to help you play music

Course Description

This course covers various computer tools that can assist musicians of all skill levels with finding, managing, arranging, editing, practicing and performing music.

Weekly Layout:

Finding and managing sheet music: searching for music using resources like IMSLP, MuseScore, Google, YouTube. Downloading YouTube audio and video files. Using resources like DropBox, Google Drive, OneDrive to manage music PDFs.

Reading music from computer or iPad: an overview of ForScore. Importing, annotating, adding & controlling audio, organization, sharing, searching, using a pedal.

SmartMusic: finding, importing, playing music. Setting tempo, using basic controls. Looping, metronome, beat/note cursor. Using SmartMusic in conjunction with music ensembles to practice your part. Practice strategies. Use of Composer to import, edit, create and share imported music (e.g. for OLLI ensembles). Requirements for music to be importable.

Music notation software: listing of major programs, then deeper dive into MuseScore: importing midi, mscz, mxl files. Brief discussion of music file formats. Editing in MuseScore; creating/exporting parts & mp3's. Use of MuseScore in conjunction with practice strategies. Creating exports for import into Smartmusic, ForScore, interchange with other notation programs.

Playing live online music - a brief summary of CP236 & 239. Differentiating from post-produced "little boxes". Examples of live online performances & WorldJams. What's involved: hardware, setup, software. Discussion of latency. If time, deeper dive into audio interfaces and the three main online music platforms.