Arpeggi-NO? Arpeggi-WHOA!
Reaching Digital Native Students with Technique Video Portfolios
Music Teachers National Association Virtual GP3 2020

What is a Technique Video Portfolio?
The Technique Video Portfolio (TVP) is a flexible and practical framework that can be used to address the technique needs of group piano students of any age, level, or background. This project helps students to develop technical piano skills gradually over the course of the semester and effectively shifts the focus of class piano coursework from testing to authentic situational fluency. Class work and exams continue using the existing curricula, however, technique components (including scales, arpeggios, and chord progressions) are taken out of quizzes and exams. Instead, students submit 1 technique video per week, following a specific semester sequence designed by the instructor. At the time of each exam, these TVP component videos are graded as a whole and serve as the exam technique grade.

Why Does It Matter?
Today's digital native students have grown up in the digital age, rather than acquiring familiarity with digital systems as adults. Research suggests that they learn and think differently than their generational predecessors and excel in situations when technology is used for interaction and feedback at an individualized pace and sequence. The TVP capitalizes on these needs by emphasizing high-quality pedagogical standards and effective practice strategies in a familiar environment at an adjustable pace.

Technology & Digital Native Resources
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- Cleveland, S., Jackson, B.C., & Dawson, M. (2016). Microblogging in higher education: Digital Natives, knowledge creation, social engineering, and intelligence analysis of educational tweets. *E-Learning and Digital Media, 13*(1-2), 62-80.
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- Palfrey, J. & Gasser, U. (2008). *Born digital: Understanding the first generation of Digital Natives.* New York, NY: Basic Books, A Member of the Perseus Books Group

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TECHNIQUE VIDEO PORTFOLIO – SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS & CALENDAR

OBJECTIVES: The TVP is intended to help students set weekly goals for practicing technique.

GUIDELINES: The technical exercises listed below will be prepared and turned in via video throughout the semester. Videos are due by midnight on Mondays. However, videos are not graded until exam days. Therefore, if a student would like to re-do any video to raise their grade, they have the opportunity to submit videos up until the next exam (so videos from weeks 1-5 must be turned in by the 5-week exam, videos from weeks 6-10 by the 10-week exam, etc.) No late videos will be accepted past the exam date.

VIDEO REQUIREMENTS: Each video should be carefully recorded to best represent the student's playing. You should find an acoustic piano to practice on, with a bench that is at the correct height. The video camera should be set up at an angle so that the teacher can see the student's hands clearly (in order to see fingering and hand positions). Finally, the video should be recorded in a quiet atmosphere so that the audio can clearly be heard.

TURNING IN VIDEOS: You will need to upload your video to your own YouTube channel or the class FlipGrid page before you submit. Then you will share or copy the FlipGrid or YouTube link and paste it into the text entry box for the assignment on Canvas.

GRADING: Videos will be graded as part of the 5-week, 10-week, and final exams. Grading is based on completion and accuracy, according to the following point system.

> 25 points – All videos turned in. Tempo was appropriate. Coordination and fingering were accurate.
> 20 points – All videos were turned in, but performance was under tempo, or exhibited slight difficulty in coordination or fingering accuracy.
> 15 points – All videos were turned in, but exhibited numerous difficulties with tempo, coordination, or fingering accuracy.
> 10 points – Only 3 or 4 videos were turned in
> 5 points – Only 1 or 2 videos were turned in
> 0 points – Student did not turn in any videos for this exam

SCHEDULE: (all examples from Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 1)

Week 1
  • Practice making and submitting a video according to the directions above
Week 2
  • Major Chords with Alternating Hands – top of page 60 – Keys: C, G, D
  • Major Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – bottom of page 60 – Keys: C, G, D,
Week 3
  • Major Chords with Alternating Hands – top of page 60 – Keys: A, E, B
  • Major Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – bottom of page 60 – Keys: A, E, B
Week 4
  • Major Chords with Alternating Hands – top of page 60 – Keys: F, Bb, Eb, Ab
  • Major Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – bottom of page 60 – Keys: F, Bb, Eb, Ab
Week 5
  • Major Chords with Alternating Hands – top of page 60 – Keys: F#, C#
  • Major Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – bottom of page 60 – Keys: F#, C#
Week 6
  • Major Triads & Inversions – top of p. 137 – hands separately – Keys: C, G, D, A, E
  • Minor Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – middle of page 75 – Keys: c, g, d, a, e

Week 7
- Major Triads & Inversions – top of p. 137 – hands separately – Keys: F, B, F#, C#
- Minor Five-Finger Patterns & Chords – middle of page 75 – Keys: f, b

Week 8
- Major Triads & Inversions – top of p. 137 – hands separately – Keys: Ab, Eb, Bb
- Group 1 Major Scales & Arpeggios – pages 124-126 – hands separately – Keys: C, G

Week 9
- Group 1 Major Scales & Arpeggios – pages 124-126 – hands separately – Keys: D, A

Week 10
- Group 1 Major Scales & Arpeggios – pages 124-126 – hands separately – Keys: E

Week 11
- Group 2 Major Scales & Arpeggios – p. 141-143 – hands separately – Keys: F
- Chord Progression – p. 170 – hands together – Keys: C, G, D

Week 12
- Group 2 Major Scales & Arpeggios – p. 141-143 – hands separately – Keys: B
- Chord Progression – p. 170 – hands together – Keys: A, E, B

Week 13
- Group 2 Major Scales & Arpeggios – p. 141-143 – hands separately – Keys: F#
- Chord Progression – p. 170 – hands together – Keys: F#, C#, F

Week 14
- Group 2 Major Scales & Arpeggios – p. 141-143 – hands separately – Keys: C#
- Chord Progression – p. 170 – hands together – Keys: Ab, Eb

Week 15
- Chord Progression – p. 170 – hands together – Keys: Bb