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Collaborative learning New learning models and applications

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Key words: Distance education, Strategy, Interdisciplinarity

Abstract:

Distance education – defined as education that takes place when the learner and the instructor are in separate location – is undergoing changes throughout the world. The teaching environment is undergoing a major shift as more and more programs are offering classes online. This shift is due to rising costs in education, enrollment management issues, and an evolution in the use of distance learning.

1 Organization of Distance Education: a Suitable Strategy

In musical field there are some concepts line: Music technology or Computer music , an interdisciplinary field situated at the crossroads of many disciplines, such as Musicology, Acoustics, Sound Processing, Psychoacoustics, Artificial Intelligence and Human Computer Interaction.

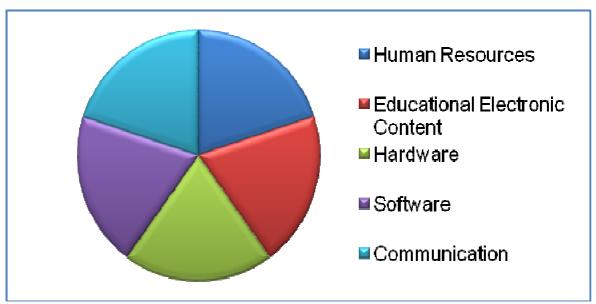
In shopping some view points upon this interdisciplinary fields we could use various coexisting methodologies, evolving from different research methods of science. There are quite a number of research areas that are a result of interdisciplinary work, just as there are many criteria for evaluating the research carried out in these fields.

Since ICT has greatly influenced the way students gain music information and skills, as well as the way in which they demonstrate their expertise, learning how to use ICT becomes an important part of the communication in teaching and learning. Also some software can take place of instrument and learning to compose using a notation program require mastering the computer as a musician would master any instrument.

1.1 Instructions and resources

ICT provides a multitude of new ways to students to analyze and respond to music. A base level of infrastructure must be required for develop programs through distance education.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY:



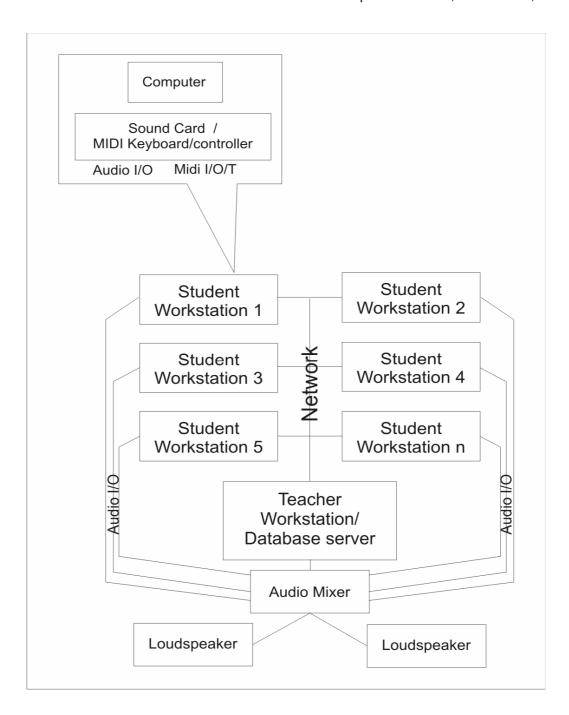
This means can be done using an electronic platform, specially designed for the theoretical disciplines (Theory of Music, Theory of Instruments, Harmony, Counterpoint, Orchestration, History of Music, Musical Aesthetics, Musical Forms, etc.) offering:

- WWW dedicated architecture;
- Multiple delivery modules for online learning (self-directed, synchronous and asynchronous tutor lead);
- A robust and scalable management system (profiles and permissions, activity tracking, reporting, extensibility);
- Support tools for designers and instructors (course planner, off-the-shelf courseware, content creation, assessment).

The main task was to create the opportunity for integration of electronic experiments in an existing teaching and learning system.

These experiments has carried out by means of real laboratory instruments.

This laboratory contains:



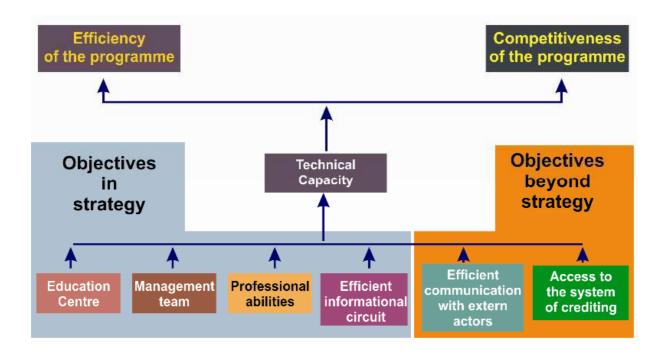
1.2 Proposed Strategy

It is very important to chose the strategy that will be applied to fulfill the objectives proposed in the program. The choice of the strategy consists in the selection of some proposed objectives that will be implemented by the program and some external objective of which accomplishment is not necessarily followed.

This step requires:

- The establishment of some obvious criteria for the choice of the strategy
- The identification of various strategies that are possible in order to fulfill the objectives pursued by the program
- The choice of the adequate strategy, considering the material and human resources utilized in the program

The following chart visualizes the succession of the steps (the chart of choosing the strategy):



1.3 Students feelings about entering the musical program through distance learning

Many students saw in participation in the distance learning program an opportunity they were long seeking to renew themselves personally and academically without a major upset in their lives.

Moreover there was a concern for explicit evaluation policies as well as rapid and standardized feedback mechanisms and communication with tutors and other instructors.

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