



Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Mario Ajero, Stephen F. Austin State University

Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi, University of Colorado Boulder

Summer Lunch & Learn Series - June 9, 2020

Synchronous or Real-Time Instruction

Asynchronous or Time-Shifted Instruction

Asynchronous or Time-Shifted Instruction

Group Piano Classes

Stephen F. Austin State University



- Majority of Music Majors are Choral and Instrumental Music Education Majors
- Large class sizes created need for alternative methods of assessment



Group Piano Classes

Stephen F. Austin State University

- Created hybrid of face-to-face piano lab and asynchronous online video exchanges
- Private Facebook Groups are platforms for students' video submissions

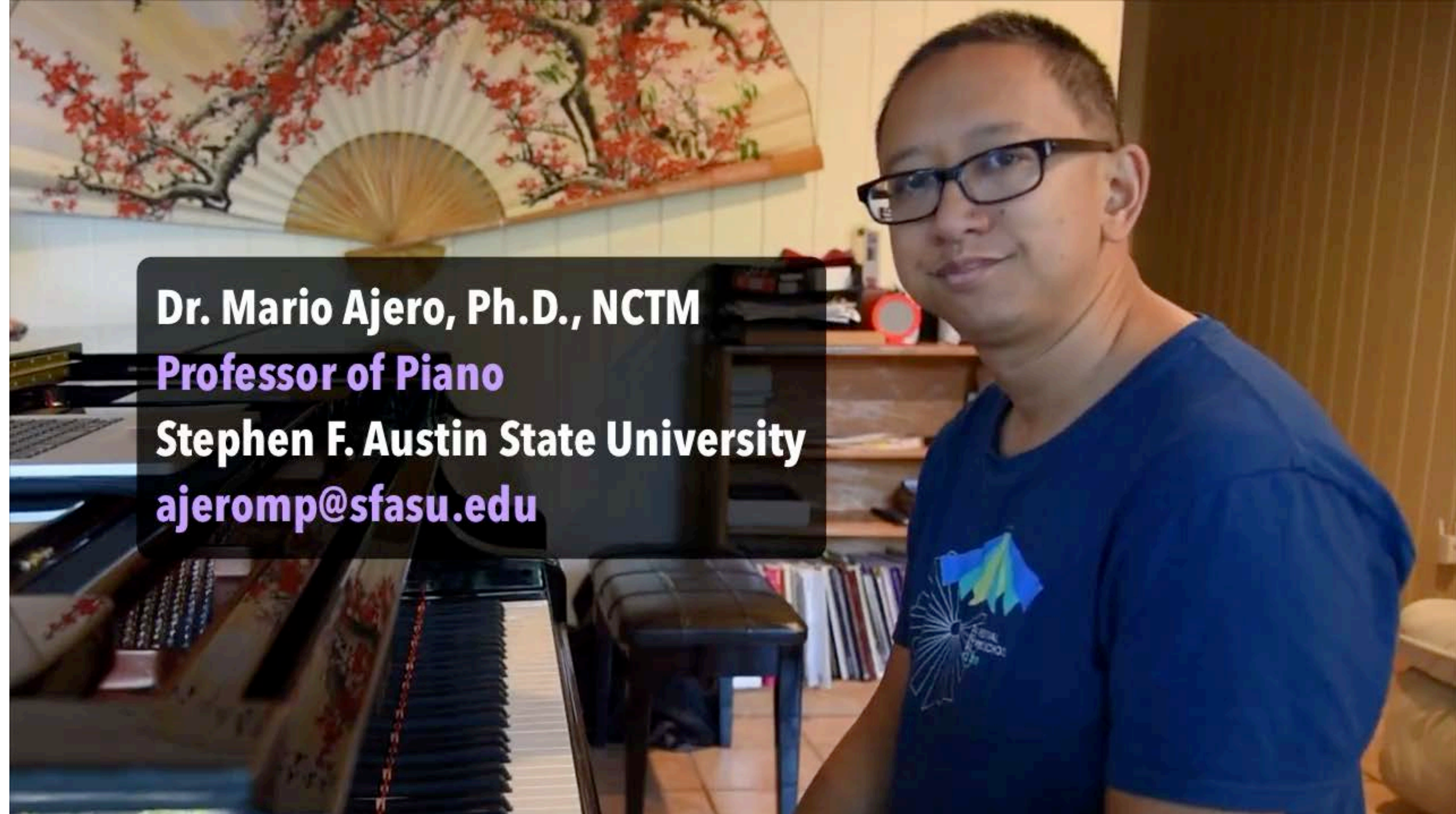
The screenshot shows a Facebook group interface. At the top, the group name 'MUP 202 Ajero Piano Group Spring 2020' is displayed with a search bar and navigation links for 'Mario' and 'Home'. Below the group name, there's a 'Private group' label and a list of navigation options: 'About', 'Discussion' (highlighted), 'Units', 'Announcements', 'Rooms', 'Members', 'Events', 'Videos', 'Photos', 'Files', 'Watch Party', 'Moderate Group', and 'Group Quality'. A search bar for the group is also present. Under 'Shortcuts', several related groups are listed, including 'SFA Music Prep' and 'MUP 102 Piano Group ...'. The main content area features a post from a 'Founding Member' dated May 5 at 9:15 PM. The post text reads: 'Toccatina... maybe? 🤔 I tried. Thanks for teaching me how to play piano for four semesters, Dr. Ajero. It's something I've always wanted to do and now I'm okay at it. I really appreciate everything that you've done. You're by far one of the best professors I've ever had. I hope you have an amazing summer and stay safe!'. Below the text is a video thumbnail showing a person playing a piano, with a play button overlay. The post has 1 comment and is seen by 30 people. At the bottom, there are 'Like' and 'Comment' buttons. A notification from 'Mario Ajero Mariana' is visible at the very bottom, stating: 'I updated your grade with my feedback on this quiz, and you should be able to see it, your Unit 3 average, and final semester grade on D2L Brightspace. It's been a pleasure, and congratulations on completing all your class piano requirements here at SFA! Have a great summer, and good luck with the rest of your studies.'

Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Ajero's hardware

- [MacBook Pro Computer](#)
- MIDI-capable piano ([Yamaha Disklavier Grand Piano](#))
- Logitech Webcam ([c930e](#))
- [On-Stage Boom Microphone Stand](#)
- [On-Stage CM01 Video Camera Adapter](#)





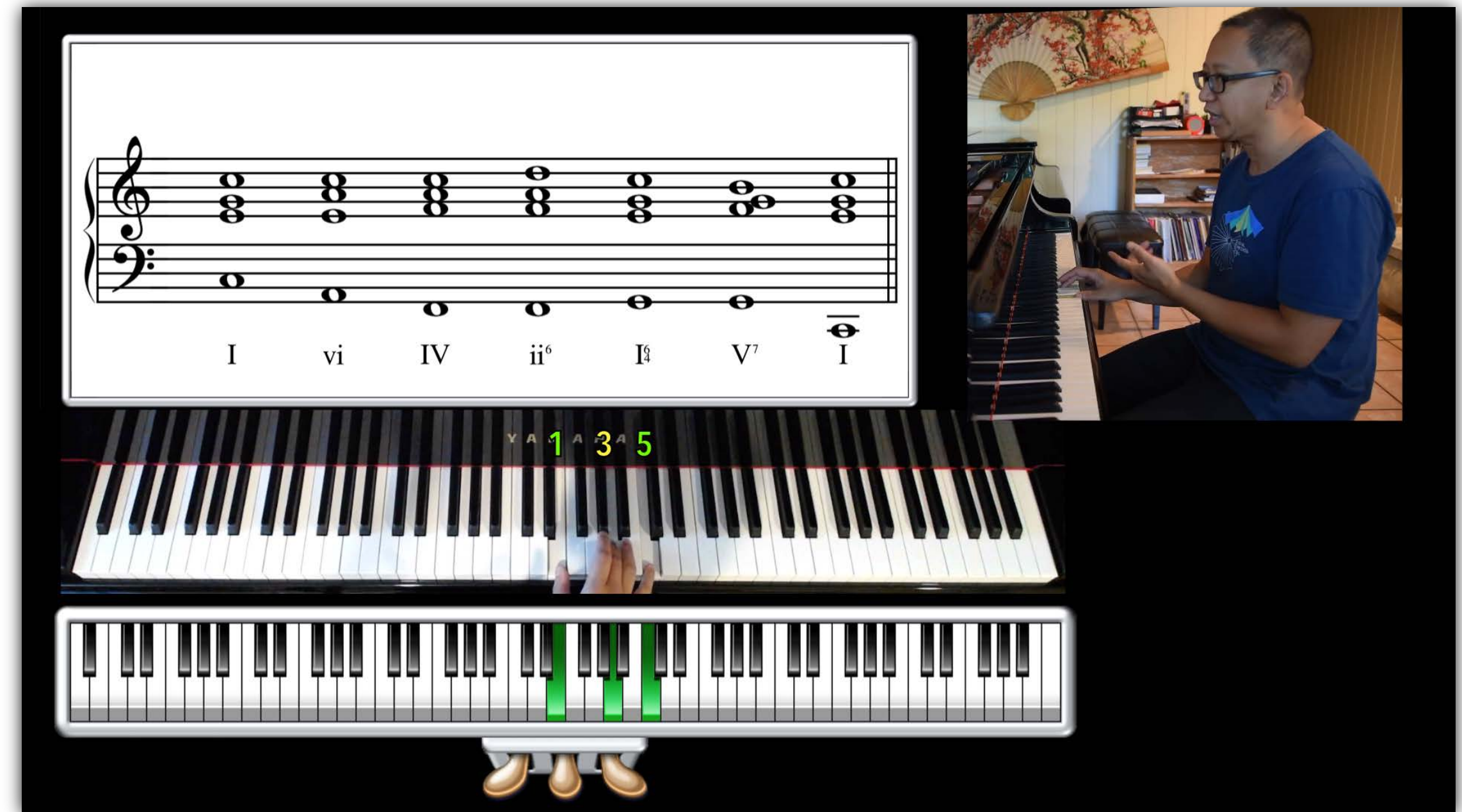
Dr. Mario Ajero, Ph.D., NCTM
Professor of Piano
Stephen F. Austin State University
ajeromp@sfasu.edu

youtube.com/mariocast

Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Ajero's software

- [Classroom Maestro](#)
 - MIDI app to visualize keys and notes in real time
- [ScreenFlow](#)
 - Video editing and screen recording



Further Reading:

- Ajero, M. (2015). *Flipping Piano Classes and Lessons With Rich Online Video Content*. *Clavier Companion*, 7(4), 20-25.
- *How to Create Piano Lesson Videos with ScreenFlow and Classroom Maestro*: https://youtu.be/L-DVS5gc_TQ



Teaching in the Time of COVID-19

Resources for Online Instruction

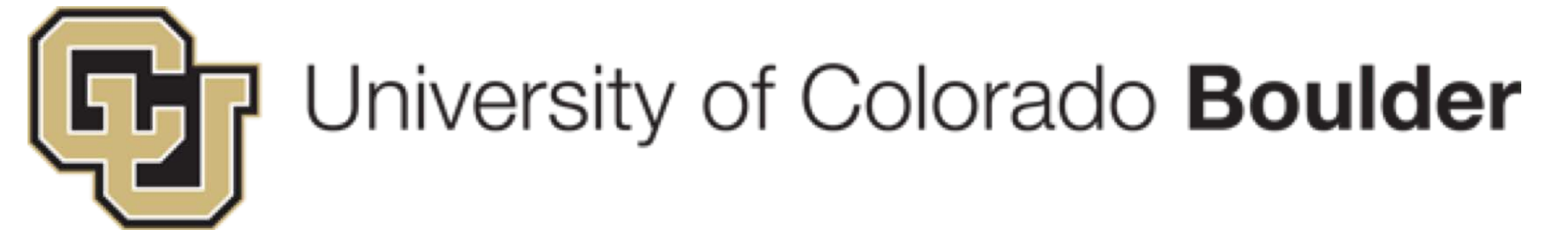
PIANO MAGAZINE

www.claviercompanion.com/covid19

Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- Challenges:
 - Quick switch
 - Instruments
 - Equipment
 - Internet connection
- Hybrid model (synchronous and asynchronous)



Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- [Kawai ES110](#) for piano majors
- [Casio CTK 4400](#) for non majors
- [Blue Snowball](#) USB mics or similar
- [Zoom](#) (optimized for audio – find guides online)
- [Cleanfeed.com](#) (for improved audio streaming – **muting Zoom**)
- Asynchronous + Synchronous



University of Colorado **Boulder**



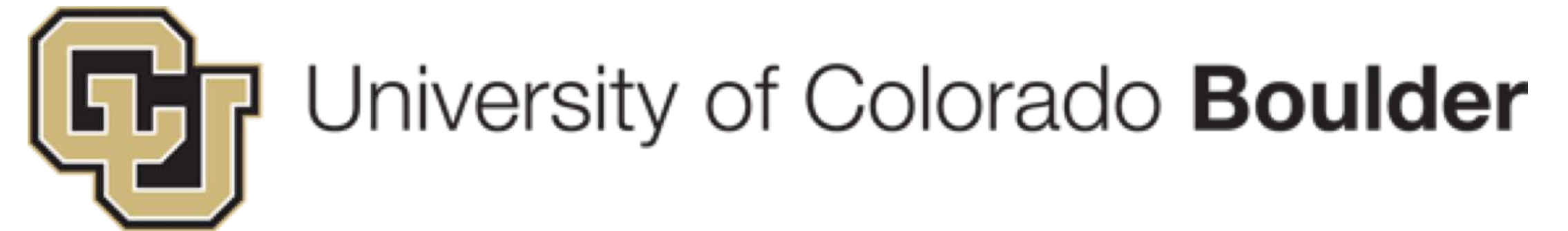
zoom



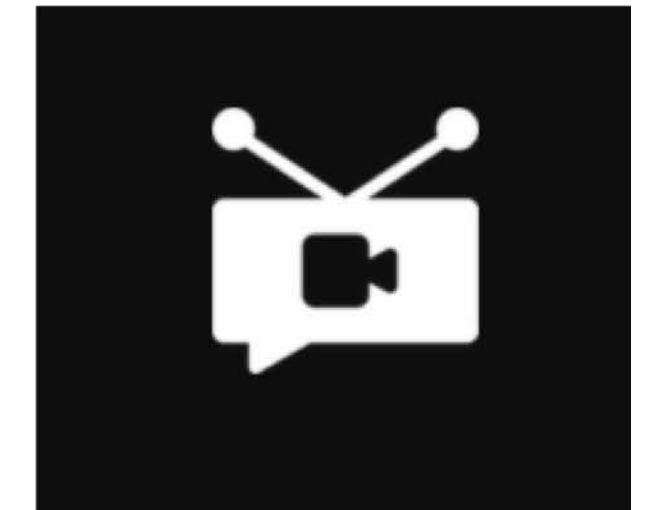
Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- Asynchronous:
 - Videos pre-recorded and shared before lesson or studio class
 - Could be “annotated” by teacher, student or peer
 - VideoAnt (ant.umn.edu)
 - ReClipped.com
 - timeline.ly
 - [Dropbox](https://www.dropbox.com)



Reclipped BETA
Timelinely



Further Reading:

- VideoAnt: Getting Started. <https://youtu.be/1SOE2aQky2I>
- DropBox annotations. <https://youtu.be/WzPAZrzCCmw>

Class Piano

U of Colorado Boulder



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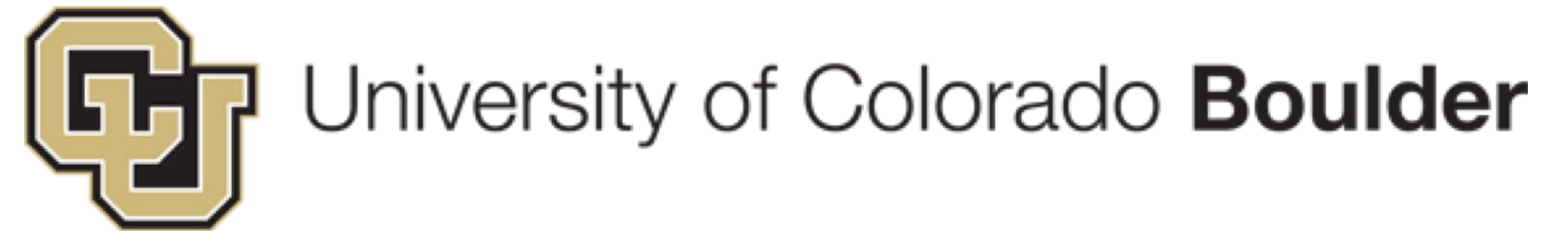
Two approaches for Fall 2020:

- Fully online (non-majors)
- Hybrid (music majors)

Class Piano

Non-major: fully online

- Mostly asynchronously
- Students own or borrow USB keyboard
- Instructor videos on Canvas LMS
 - [Camtasia](#), [Filmora](#), or [Screenflow](#)
- Regular video submissions
- [Piano Marvel](#): interactive collection of pieces
 - Obtain specific grades



pianomarvel 
Teaching & Assessment Software



Class Piano

Non-major: fully online

- Video exchanges facilitated with:
 - [Canvas](#) (LMS)
 - [Closed Facebook groups](#)
 - [Google Drive](#)
- Collabra Music (collabramusic.com)
- MusicU (CU Boulder - soon available to others)



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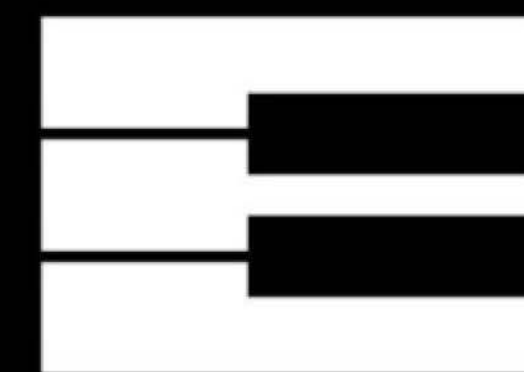
Class Piano

Music majors: hybrid approach

- Subgroups of 4 students
- Alternate in-person meetings
- Weekly video submissions
- eNovativePiano.com
 - E-textbook
 - Multimedia content
 - Instructional videos



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eNovativePiano

Multimedia Tools for Developing Musicianship Skills

Suitable for group instruction, individual lessons, and eLearning.

Class Piano

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- Additional tools
 - musictheory.net
 - Key and note ID
 - Soundtrap.com
 - Asynchronous keyboard “ensemble” and improv
 - Flat.io
 - Written exercises
 - Group composition



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(—) Soundtrap®



Video Demonstrations:

- Async keyboard “ensembles” with Soundtrap. <https://youtu.be/COYBdkKQf2w>
- Async improvisation with Soundtrap. <https://youtu.be/15mYs5VI3x8>



Effective pedagogy

Resources

- Piano Magazine: Teaching Piano in Time of COVID-19 (May 2020)
<https://claviercompanion.com>
- Dumlavwalla, D. (2017). Transitioning From Traditional To Online Piano Lessons: Perceptions Of Students, Parents And Teacher. [MTNA e-Journal](#) 8(3)
- Pike, P. D. (2017). Improving music teaching and learning through online service: A case study of a synchronous online teaching internship. [International Journal of Music Education](#) 35(1).

One more thing...

Internet MIDI



timewarptech.com



Antonio Ajero



Mario Ajero





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