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Undergraduate Portfolio

Reflection: Mus 340 Instrumental Methods Final Exam

This class (Instrumental Methods) was taken in the Junior year of my undergraduate was almost entirely discussion-based. Students would read chapters of the textbook and share their knowledge and opinion during class time. Hence, if students did not come to class with well-shaped opinions and factually supported stances on each topic, they could not participate and their lack of preparation showed.

Just as the music education profession is oriented, teachers must not only be knowledgeable in their subject area, but use that knowledge in practice. Instrumental methods prepared us to think this way without any materials or resources in front of us, and the final exam was a direct extension of that mentality. To receive a perfect score on this exam after using higher-order thinking skills alone was unbelievably rewarding. The intrinsic feeling of accomplishment was mostly due to the fact that I must routinely ask myself these very questions in the real world; questions related to school budget, recruitment, classroom management, and advocacy. As a result, this exam is not only a grade, but a valuable resource as a future educator.