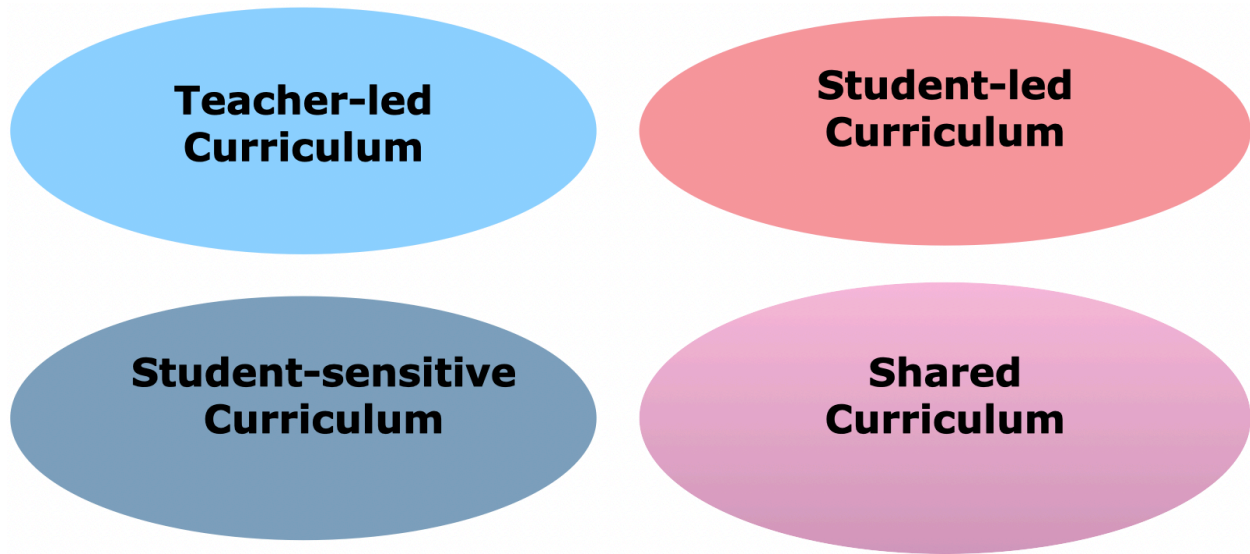


Teaching with Student Diversity in Mind: Why Curriculum Models Make a Difference

With Merlin B. Thompson

The following four **Curriculum Models** are prevalent with music teachers:



Teacher-led Curriculum (master/apprentice teaching) has occupied the most prominent position historically, whereas a Shared Curriculum may actually prove more satisfactory across the *diversity of today's student demographic*. Also, a Shared Curriculum offers trusting stepping stones to Student-sensitive and Student-led Curriculum. Each Curriculum Model has its own target student audience. When the Curriculum Model synchronizes with students' aspirations, teachers may anticipate a welcome outcome. When the Curriculum Model is out of sync with students' aims, the consequences may be undesirable for everyone.

- Consider which Curriculum Model(s) you use in your own music teaching.
- How do you feel about a Shared Curriculum model of teaching?
- Who in your studio might be better served by a Student-sensitive Curriculum or a Student-led Curriculum?

Award-winning music educator, pianist, and scholar, Merlin B. Thompson (PhD, MA, BMus) is author of *More than Music Lessons: A Studio Teacher's Guide to Parents, Practicing, Projects, and Character*.

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