

COLLABORATIVE CO-TEACHING IN MUSIC EDUCATION

1 + 1 = 3

| Strengthening Differentiated Learning Environments
and Professional Development for Educators |

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BACKGROUND

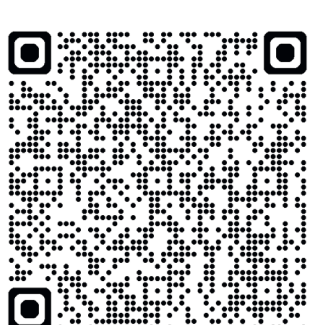
Collaborative co-teaching partnerships among music educators are increasingly prominent in today's educational landscape. This development arises from both a necessity and a desire to enhance and differentiate instruction while addressing the need for new interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaborations. Although co-teaching is gaining traction, there is often a lack of thorough understanding regarding its successful implementation at the institutional level and among educators. The transition from cooperative co-teaching (1+1=2) to collaborative co-teaching (1+1=3) - in which teachers jointly develop, plan, conduct, and evaluate instruction - offers both opportunities and challenges. By increasing the transparency and sharing of teaching practices, co-teaching can help dismantle the traditionally individualised approach to music education. This project builds upon existing research on co-teaching and professional knowledge in the field of music education.

METHOD

This project aims to identify factors that facilitate or hinder successful co-teaching, while also proposing and clarifying best practices and developmental opportunities that foster a more integrated collaborative culture within institutions. A survey has been conducted among instructors at The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus/Aalborg, and Aarhus Music School to examine their experiences, challenges, and attitudes towards co-teaching. The project also incorporates insights from both cooperative and collaborative teaching situations. The goal is to identify factors influencing successful co-teaching and to propose and clarify best practices and developmental opportunities that promote a more integrated collaborative culture within institutions.

RESULTS

Data collection is still ongoing. The findings will inform the development of an instructional video for music educators and an article for a professional journal. Both will share the project's insights and offer concrete recommendations for teaching practices. These materials will provide practical guidance for strengthening collaborative teaching cultures and enhancing the quality of instruction. The project is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2025, after which the results will be published, shared with participating institutions, and uploaded to YouTube. Preliminary analyses suggest that 41% of respondents are interested in participating in more co-teaching at their institution, while another 41% responded "maybe."



Scan the QR code to find
out more about the project
on The Royal Academy of
Music website

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