

It's Time to Teach Music Production! Now What?

Everything You Need to Know to Get Started



- Successfully teaching songwriting and music production requires **some** knowledge of two domains: **music composition** and **music technology**

The composition process I use:

1. Exploring sounds
2. Choosing, creating, and combining sounds
3. Listening and deciding if they sound right together
4. Accepting, rejecting, or revising the sounds
5. Finishing and sharing

The Technology



What to Consider When Choosing a DAW



Where to get a DAW for free:

1. Click this link for a list of the [10 best free online DAWs](#)
2. Click this link for a list of [20 free software DAWs](#)

edu.bandlab.com





Lesson Ideas

Loop-based compositions: A loop is a short sound or musical phrase that can be repeated.

Process:

1. Students explore and listen to the loops available
2. Students experiment with combining different loops
3. Students accept, reject, or revise what they have
4. Students share their song with the teacher or entire class

Composing an original song in a DAW:

Process:

Use your unique composition process each time you create any, or all of the following

Suggested Roadmap:

1. Compose a rhythm track
2. Compose a melody track
3. Compose a harmony track
4. Compose a bass track
5. Record a vocal or live instrument
6. Arrange the sections of the song
7. Edit
8. Mix
9. Share

Suggested Book Resources

- Freedman, B. (2013). *Teaching music through composition: A curriculum using technology*. Oxford University Press.
- Kuhn, W., & Hein, E. (2021). *Electronic music school: A contemporary approach to teaching musical creativity*. Oxford University Press.
- Lyons, M. J. (2023). *Produce this!: Digital music production and songwriting workbook*. Neil A. Kjos Music Company.

Visit the Kjos booth #1511 for a free copy of *Produce This!*

Music Technology Networking Resources

- Facebook Group: [I Teach Music Technology](#)
- [TI:ME](#) - Technology in Music Education

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