



1

MODULE

Simply Music Piano

Teacher Training - Overview



1 - HOW IT ALL WORKS

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING NOTES CAREFULLY! THESE ARE THE BEGINNING STEPS TO THE INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM (ITTP) AND THEY WILL GUIDE YOU ON HOW TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE ENTIRE CURRICULUM.

Welcome to the Initial Teacher Training Program

The Initial Teacher Training Program (ITTP) provides you with all of the materials needed for you to learn how to teach this piano method, manage the relationships involved, as well as set up, build and maintain a successful teaching practice. Based around one of our Core Curriculum programs, Foundation Level 1, the ITTP is designed to steer you through the training, as well as provide a roadmap for how to navigate your way in being trained to present the entire Simply Music Piano curriculum.

The ITTP is broken into 10 Modules, each containing important and/or critical components. In Module 1 we provide this Teacher Training Overview that gives you basic directions on how to proceed through the ITTP. In Module 2 we dive into how the teaching process is set up and how it begins. In Modules 3 through 8 you will learn two Foundation Pieces per module (all from Foundation Level 1), as well as be provided with additional Curriculum Support, Educator Support, Studio Support and Business Support materials.

Refer to the ITTP Breakdown (PDF) for a complete overview of what each Module of the Initial Teacher Training Program consists of.



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How to work through a module

To get the most out of the ITTP and keep yourself organized in the process we highly recommend that you follow three steps when starting each Module:

1. Print out the 'Module Overview' (PDF) for easy reference while you watch and listen to the ITTP contents. *NOTE: You can find the Module Overview at the top of each Module's page, just underneath the 'Start Here' heading.*
2. Have a convenient place to write down any notes or questions that come up.
3. Keep your Module Overviews in a binder or organized on your computer for access during your Teacher Training.

In the ITTP it is essential that you understand the recommended system for how to learn each Foundation piece. As you move through Modules 3 through 8 we strongly urge you to first watch the Teacher Training videos for the first piece that is presented. As you are doing this it will be enormously valuable for you to pause the videos after each chapter and process the content onto the keyboard. It will also help if you do this as if you are a student processing it for the very first time.

Thereafter, when you have completed the Teacher Training videos for that piece, review the provided Teacher's Edition of the Student Home Material (SHM) videos for that very same piece. These will provide a video snapshot of the distilled essence of each component that you would be teaching to students.

When you have completed that piece, reviewing both TTMs and SHMs, move on to the second piece in the Module and repeat the process.

Over decades of training teachers we know that this is the most efficient and effective way to learn the fundamentals of Simply Music, as well as the pieces themselves. We highly recommend that you follow this exact same protocol as you work your way through all of the Modules and the rest of the Core Curriculum.

It is essential that you don't skip over any of the content. Review each step of each Module, in the exact order that it is presented to you. This is critical to your development as a Simply Music Teacher and your understanding of the Simply Music Piano Method.



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The ITTP Module Breakdown (PDF)

We have provided you with a simple table that gives you a comprehensive breakdown of the contents of each ITTP Module. It can be used for future reference, making it easy to find and review individual components of your ITTP (*See Module 1 contents*).

PLEASE NOTE: All Teacher Training Materials (TTMs) are only available online in a digital format. Any instance where the words 'DVD', 'CD' or 'printed book' are used now only relate to the digital video, audio or PDFs. All PDFs of both TTMs and SHMs can be downloaded and printed as you wish.

A Curriculum Snapshot

The Simply Music Piano Program is made up of three Core Curriculum sections - the Foundation Program, Special Programs and the Development Program :

- **The Foundation Program (REQUIRED)** - The Foundation Program is one of three central components that make up the Core Curriculum of the Simply Music Piano Program. It consists of nine Foundation Program Levels. These Levels, 1 through 9, are sequential, and present content and concepts that continually build upon on what was delivered in previous levels. The majority of our playing-based tools and learning strategies are acquired and developed in the nine Foundation Program Levels.
- **Special Programs (REQUIRED)** - Special Programs, the third required component of the Core Curriculum, are an important and integral part of the Simply Music Piano program. Their purpose is to introduce and focus on a variety of more specialized aspects of musicianship and develop broad-based musicians from the start.

These programs are woven into the curriculum as additional 'streams' alongside the Foundation Levels. Typically you will begin teaching the Special Programs starting in Foundation Level 1. Some will be completed during the Foundation Program (Levels 1-9), and others will continue well into the Development Program (Levels 10-18). The Special Programs are:

- Composition & Improvisation
- Arrangements 1, 2, and 3
- Accompaniment 1
- Accompaniment Variations
- Reading Rhythm
- Reading Notes
- Time for More Music
- Jazz Clues
- Accompaniment 2



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- **The Development Program (REQUIRED)** - The Development Program, the second required component of the Core Curriculum, is taught after the Foundation Program Levels are complete. In the Development Program, Levels 10 through 18, we place a high priority on students being able to demonstrate their ability to 'self-generate' - the ability to shape and develop their progress based on the knowledge and expertise that they have acquired.
- **Supplemental Programs (OPTIONAL)** - Supplemental Programs are additional programs designed to enhance your students' progress and experience. They offer extra materials that both support and develop musicianship. Supplemental Programs are endorsed by Simply Music and have been created by Simply Music Piano teachers with extensive experience. Although these programs are optional, not a part of the ITTP, and not a required part of the Core Curriculum, they are extremely valuable and highly recommended.

What's next?

You're now ready to dive into Module 2 and each of the subsequent Modules in the ITTP. Review each Module as described earlier. Continue to write down questions, many of which will likely be answered as you move through your training. As you progress into further Modules additional resources and support systems will be presented to you and discussed. These will provide you with further direction on how to take advantage of the vast array of content that we make available to our global community of educators.

Once you've made a complete pass through all of the contents in the ITTP you will likely feel ready to teach. If you feel that there are sections of your training that you'd like to review then no problem, the ITTP Module Breakdown makes it easy to locate a specific section, topic or document within the ITTP that you may want to review again.

We recommend that you bookmark this website for easy access during your training and teaching: www.teachers.simplymusic.com

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