

Title: Cross-Border Piano Project
McGraw Hill Ryerson Higher Education Conference
Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario
November 18th

Presenters: Gilles Comeau, Mélina Dallaire

The piano pedagogy program at the University of Ottawa gives its graduate students unique opportunities to enhance their teaching and learning experiences with a hands-on approach using new technology for distance video teaching. These students get in-depth insight into the next generation of videomediated learning using broadband videoconferencing. As this technology gains popularity, they learn how to conduct research projects accessing and evaluating such teaching environments.

The *Cross-Border Piano Project* involves an international multidisciplinary team that designs and carries out piano teaching using videoconferencing to connect a student and a teacher from two different countries. They explore how video technologies can be tailored to promote collaboration in music learning and in doing so, they contribute to the development of many innovative teaching and learning practices. Using ethnographic methodologies, they study the impact of distance piano lessons in authentic learning situations, taking into consideration social, environmental and cultural elements while exploring both teachers' and learners' responses to this technology.

This presentation, using PowerPoint, video clips and interviews, will be of interest to university/college teachers, broadband and distance-learning educators, researchers involved in ethnographic studies and music teachers.