

# UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

## *Using and Creating Podcasts to Improve Your Teaching*

**Dr. Pete Zambito**  
**Assistant Teaching Professor of Music**  
**University of Missouri**  
**Host, *Pete's Percussion Podcast***

2021 National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy  
Texas Tech University, Host  
May 23, 2021

- I. Podcasts
  - a. Audio
    - i. Episodic Series of Digital Audio Files
    - ii. Made to Listen on one's own time
    - iii. Follows streaming model
  - b. Video
    - i. Can be stand-alone or connected to an Audio Podcast
    - ii. Wonderful for bonus content
    - iii. Can easily be connected to a YouTube channel
  - c. Related Social Media
    - i. Instagram Live Videos
    - ii. Facebook Live
    - iii. TikTok
    - iv. Twitter
- II. Current Podcasts with Material That Can Be Used in your Studio
  - a. [@ Percussion Podcast](#)
  - b. [Pete's Percussion Podcast](#)
  - c. [Discussions in Percussion](#)
  - d. Other Podcasts Have Similar Content that can be used
- III. Creating Your Own Podcasts - Content
  - a. Interviews with Performers/Composers
    - i. Studio and Senior Recitals
    - ii. Percussion Ensemble/Large Ensemble Concerts
    - iii. Guest Artists
    - iv. World Premieres
  - b. Social Media
    - i. Instagram Live Video Content – Connected to studio/interviews



# UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- ii. Instagram Takeovers
  - iii. TikTok connections
  - iv. Facebook Live Interviews
- IV. Creating Your Own Podcasts – Benefits
- a. Collaboration with you and your students
  - b. Interviewer/Interviewee roles valid for future interactions/employment
  - c. Hosting’s Relationship to Teaching
  - d. More Experience with Audio/Video Production
  - e. Improves Communication and Teaching outside of the podcast zone
  - f. Exposure of Program Outside of School Bubble
  - g. Record of reaching out important to School Administrators
  - h. New Ways to deliver information
    - i. Weekly Studio Events – written AND audio/visual versions
    - ii. Class Announcements – read/speak to your students!
- V. Creating Your Own Podcasts – Equipment
- a. Zoom/Skype/Phone Recording System
  - b. Digital Audio Workstation (DAW)
  - c. Microphone (USB plug-in style is easiest to use – many options available)
  - d. Podcast Hosting Spot (Squarespace website, Podbean, Buzzsprout, Simplecast, etc.)
- VI. Modeling of Podcasts
- a. Find style/model of podcast you want to emulate
    - i. What podcasts do you like? What is their format?
    - ii. What is the hosting style?
    - iii. How is music/score involved?
    - iv. How is it edited? Is it edited at all?
  - b. Use regular segments
    - i. One possible format
      - 1. Opening greeting/check-in with hosts
      - 2. What is happening in studio/school
      - 3. Main segment (interview, history segment)
      - 4. Closing item/segment
  - c. Plan for publishing format
    - i. Once a week during the semester is ideal
    - ii. Recurring nature allows for audience to build
    - iii. Explain if long breaks will occur
  - d. Plan for time-frame
    - i. 20-30 minutes per episode is a good standard
- VII. Other Podcast Items
- a. Scripting of show
    - i. Write everything you say down



# UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- ii. Outline form – topics decided in advance, but presentation is more improvisational/off-the-cuff
- b. Style of editing
  - i. Get all of the “ums, likes, you knows” out?
  - ii. Keep it all in?
- c. Plan for Video content
  - i. Some segments could use video explanation
  - ii. Engage Viewers
- d. Compare and Contrast, and Improve
  - i. Listen in the midst of other podcasts you listen to – does it measure up?
- e. “Do I sound like myself?”
  - i. Know what you sound like and make that happen
- f. Weekly plan to produce episodes
  - i. Day one – Editing
  - ii. Day two – web design work
  - iii. Day three – finish and publish

## **Podcasts that were mentioned in the chat (that have not already been mentioned)**

Fake Doctors, Real Friends – I love the show *Scrubs*, and hearing the behind-the-scenes stories is awesome

Doug Walter’s Son rates Disney Films

Percussion Pedagogy Podcast

Office Ladies – I like behind-the-scenes stories from *The Office*

The Daily – New York Times

Hidden Brain – latest discoveries in psychology; unusual cases. Great host!

Life Behind Bars – Cocktails, history and humor

Joe Rogan Experience – The guests, information, length

Giant Bombcast

DrumHistoryPodcasts.com

PTI – sports podcast

Tony Kornheiser Podcast

NPR Podcasts – the information

Let’s Talk About Myths, Baby – Liv Albert (host) is very relatable and makes everything interesting; about Greek Myths

5 Days with Josh Quillen

Scoring Notes

Stuff You Should Know – very informative with a casual feel to the dialogue

Armchair Expert – pretty free and open discussions of a WIDE variety of topics

Last Podcast on the Left – true crime/comedy

Broken Record – music-related podcast hosted by Malcolm Gladwell and Rick Rubin

RadioLab – NPR

Jim Cramer’s Podcast – Financial Info

The Drive-In Speakerbox’s Podcast – Movie talk; I like the hosts and their humor

