Teaching Music Data Management

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What are Music Data?

• (Music) Data are information in digital form that can be transmitted or processed (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)
Music Data Types

- Text, video, and audio
- Subdiscipline specific
Music Student as Researchers

- Lack research experience
- Prefer readily available materials
- Use a wide array of formats in research
- Produce a wide array of formats during research and performance
Music Students and Data Management

- Avoid data sharing
- Interested in data preservation
- Less likely to understand data storage requirements
- Not sure what is music data
Music Data Management Curriculum

• An overview of the meaning of research data management.
• Data storage and backup best practices.
• The importance of clean data and a brief discussion about cleaning data using a software package such as OpenRefine.
• Data documentation, including descriptive metadata.
Music Data Management Curriculum (continued)

- Organizing data with good file naming conventions and folder structure.
- File format selection including a discussion of open file formats.
- A conversation about the products of research and intellectual property.
Music Data Management Curriculum (continued)

• A discussion about the importance of planning for the management of research data before research begins, including writing a data management plan

• Information about sharing appropriate research data in institutional, disciplinary, or general public access repositories.
Class Activity

• Designed to complement the curriculum
• Includes relevant scenarios
• Can be completed in class
Future Directions

• Design more activities
• Explore concepts in more depth
• Expand the instruction to undergraduate students
References

• Joe C. Clark, “Information-Seeking Behavior and Library Use by Distance Education Graduate Music Education Students,” Music Reference Services Quarterly 17, no. 4 (2014): 207-25, doi:10.1080/10588167.2014.965606


