Spoken Paper

Comparing lessons from different countries on video – is neo-liberalism influencing music education’s future?

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The presentation is about result of a comparative research about music education in classrooms from seven countries. The comparisons are based on music lessons from each country on video, triangulated with interviews of teachers and students and with the perspectives of national experts of music education on “their” lesson. Guided by a praxeological approach (e.g. Schatzky et al. 2001, Reckwitz 2002, 2017), the presentation uses an example to show how pedagogical practices from a music lesson on video can be related to (neoliberal) discourse practices in surrounding social areas - and how they can influence the idea of music in the classroom.

The lessons were documented with three or four fixed cameras and additional material such as interviews with teachers and students. (All material is published in Wallbaum 2018). The national experts articulated their views on the lessons with a new method called Analytical Short Film (ASF). This method combines short films of 2-3 minutes in length created from the material with written information explaining the short film in terms of both the material and the theoretical glasses.