

# ***Music in Lockdown: How to Podcast with Students***

**By Paula Bialski**

**Associate Professor for Digital Sociology**

**School of Humanities and Social Sciences**



***Students  
learn:***

- ***how to interview***
- ***how to follow one  
research question  
and stay on track***
- ***how to make a  
research topic  
relevant for a wider  
audience***

***How did we do it?***

**1. Pick a larger question your class can (partially) answer with a 10-episode podcast series (ex. how did the lockdown affect various members of the music industry?)**





**2. Split the students into groups (usually 2-3 is enough)**

---

**3. Show students a variety of podcast formats – but decide on one that the entire series will stick to**





**4. Write a general script template the students will have to stick to**



**5. Bring in a guest podcast producer to help them with audio and recording basics**



A dimly lit meeting room where a woman in a white shirt is pointing at a whiteboard covered in colorful sticky notes. Several other people are seated around a table with laptops, looking towards the whiteboard. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark layer.

**6. Collectively as a team come up with a list of interesting people to interview that can help answer the general podcast question/theme**

**7. Get students to pick one of these people/characters to focus on**





**8. Collectively work on possible interview questions with the students**

---

**9. Invite somebody from the topic you are addressing to be collectively interviewed by the whole class (ex. I had a indie pop musician)**





**10. Discuss  
what went  
right, what  
went wrong in  
this collective  
interview.**

**11. Send students to the field, giving them time for their interview(s), and script-writing.**





**12. Their final project: A full script and well-labeled audio, sent to the producer to put it all together.**

**The final product: a podcast series!**



-2:53





# MUSIC IN LOCKDOWN

PODCAST

# Music in Lockdown

Paula Bialski

FOLLOW



All Episodes ▾

Oldest to Newest ▾

[Learn about COVID-19](#) [Learn more](#)



## Episode 1: The Indie Musicians

Indie musicians have been hit particularly hard during the pandemic: live concerts have disappeared, leaving indie musicians with barely any income from streaming services or...



Jul 2021 · 33 min 1 sec left

[Learn about COVID-19](#) [Learn more](#)



## Episode 2: Samba

## About

Music in Lockdown is a 10-part documentary series created in the Sound & Society class at the University of St. Gallen in the spring of 2021, and archives the changing lives, struggles and achievements of the music industry during the Covid-19 pandemic. Each episode was written and produced by students - who interviewed a variety of characters making up our musical worlds including samba musicians in Brazil, club owners in Zurich, and indie musicians in Berlin. The project is led and hosted by Paula Bialski and engineered by Heights Beats. A new episode will be released every Monday, starting on July 19th.



## Music in Lockdown

Paula Bialski

Music in Lockdown is a 10-part documentary series created in the Sound & Society class at the University of St. Gallen in the spring of 2021, and archives the changing lives, struggles and achievements of the music industry during the Covid-19 pandemic. Each episode was written and produced by students - who interviewed a variety of characters making up our musical worlds including samba musicians in Brazil, club owners in Zurich, and indie musicians in Berlin. The project is led and hosted by Paula Bialski and engineered by Heights Beats. A new episode will be released every Monday, starting on July 19th.





## Episode 8: Music Streaming

SEPTEMBER 07, 2021



## Episode 7: Classical musicians

AUGUST 31, 2021



## Episode 6: Clubs & Nightlife

AUGUST 24, 2021



## Episode 5: Music Festivals

AUGUST 17, 2021



## Episode 4: The Band (with Eric Levi and Rob Harris)

AUGUST 10, 2021



## Episode 3: The Producers

AUGUST 03, 2021



## Episode 2: Samba

JULY 26, 2021



## Episode 1: The Indie Musicians

JULY 19, 2021



# Music in Lockdown

## Episode 1: The Indie Musicians

JULY 19, 2021 PAULA BIALSKI



### LISTEN ON



### SHARE EPISODE



### SHOW NOTES

---

Indie musicians have been hit particularly hard during the pandemic: live concerts have disappeared, leaving indie musicians with barely any income from streaming services or online gigs. In this episode, Lydia Klotz and Patrick Sauer interview three indie musicians: Christoph from the band Strand Child (based in Berlin, Germany) and Beri and Jonas from the band What Rules (based in Baden, Switzerland) in order to explore how the pandemic has impacted the careers of these musicians, their ways of interacting with fans, and their prospects for the future.

A dark, textured background featuring a composition book and a pencil holder. The composition book is on the left, with its cover visible. The pencil holder is on the right, containing several sharpened pencils. The text is overlaid on the book and pencil holder.

***Some final tips:***

- Always work as an “editorial team”
- in order to make a listenable podcast, make yourself the editor-in-chief/head-of-production
- Do work with a sound engineer (find funding for this!)

**And finally:**

**Thank you to the Teaching Innovation Lab on campus for their financial support!**