

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Voice Ensemble - Men's Choir

MUEN 1151 51

Dr. Bonnie Sneed

Course Description:

Any major choral group, campus choir, chorus, or swing choir. Provides the opportunity for the study and performance of music in large and small ensembles. These courses are open through audition to all students but are strongly recommended for all music majors and minors in their area of primary emphasis. Semester Hour 1 (3 lec/3 lab)

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

None

Welcome to the Men's Choir at MCC. If this is your first time in an MCC Choir, know that you are stepping into a tradition of excellence, dedication, and fun! Our choral program is designed to prepare and educate students for a lifetime of singing. Having conducted high school and college choirs for over twenty years, I bring a unique perspective on the choral art, and can prepare singers well for the various auditions, competitions and performances ahead. Stated in the pages that follow, the expectations of membership are clearly detailed for the MCC singers. Our hope is that many students will be interested in exploring their singing abilities, and that they will find increased opportunities to fit choir into their schedules.

Our GOAL:

Enhance and improve the student's choral experience and prepare him/her for a lifetime of singing

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Students will be successful through daily attendance and practice of their repertoire. Rehearsal and Performance attendance is required.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Bonnie Sneed MCC E-mail: bsneed@mclennan.edu
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8275 Office Location: BPAC 100
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: TBA

Other Instruction Information (check out my website): <https://sites.google.com/site/bbsneed4>

Required Text & Materials:

Music is provided. Concert dress is required for all performances. All singers must be present and on-time in complete uniform (including the shoes, socks, etc) for all performances. Failure to do so will result in a lowering of the grade for the performance. Music is provided, but if it is lost, then the student is required to pay a \$35.00 missing music fee. A hold will be placed on the student's account until the music is returned or the payment is made.

We don't want your money; just don't lose the music!

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources, we encourage you to contact a success coach by calling (254) 299-8226. Students can visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to meet with a success coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach

academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) is open 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, without an appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be contacted/notified through your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

* [Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)
(www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Uniforms:

**Men: black tuxes, white shirt, black bowtie, black socks and shoes
Plan NOW to have your tux!!**

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Lecture, rehearsal and performance. Participation and attendance are a significant portion of this course.

Rehearsal/Participation Expectations (51% of the grade)

- On time to rehearsal means EARLY
- Music Folder and Pencil are ALWAYS present
- Take notes and Practice OUTSIDE OF REHEARSAL
- Demonstrate excellent posture and vocal technique
- Respect each other and improve as a Singer
- Drink Water – bring a bottle to class
- Absolutely NO hairspray, perfume or cologne
- NO cell phones, NO whining

Performance Expectations (49% of the grade) – this includes Dress Rehearsals

- On time for dress rehearsal and performance call means EARLY
- Memorization is complete and music in the folder, if needed, is present
- Dress rehearsal does NOT mean come in your uniform – it means we run the entire concert
- Uniform is in clean and well-presented condition, and all parts are present (Concert only)
- Absolutely NO hairspray, perfume or cologne
- NO cell phones, NO whining

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

To rehearse and perform a large variety of choral music from the 16th-century to recently-composed choral works; in English and a variety of foreign languages; from a cappella to accompanied major works with orchestra. This repertoire

will aid in the development of your vocal and choral singing and strengthen your skills in communication, team work, critical thinking and problem-solving.

Student Learning Outcome: To engage in the creative and interpretive performance process and to experience the physical and intellectual demands required of the performing artist.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Occasionally, extra rehearsals or performances may occur for extenuating circumstances. Every attempt will be made to work out schedule challenges. Dates are subject to change and will be announced through email and in rehearsal.

Concert Dates

- Friday, October 4th: Performance in Mexia area - 3pm - 7pm commitment
- Monday, November 4th: Dress Rehearsal - 5-6:30pm BPAC Theatre
- Friday, November 8th: 7:30pm Concert – Call Time: TBA - BPAC Theatre
- Monday, December 2nd: Dress Rehearsal - 5-6:30pm BPAC Theatre
- Thursday, December 5th: 7:30pm Concert – Call Time: TBA - BPAC Theatre - Christmas attire!

Course Grading Information: (51% participation, 49% dress rehearsal and performances):

Everyone must attend rehearsals in order for the utmost collaboration and teamwork to occur among the singers. The choir's sound needs to be shaped and molded, and each person's unique voice contributes to the choral tone. Further, rehearsals require many markings and process-oriented activities that can only happen when the singer is present.

Performances are the final product of weeks of rehearsals, and are the only method of assessment for this portion of the grade. Students who fail to attend performances miss the opportunity to complete their own progress and prevent the entire ensemble from performing at its potential. **One cannot earn an 'A' for the semester if he/she does not attend all dress rehearsals and concerts.**

Attendance Policy – or "1 for free"

Absences are not excused or unexcused. They are simply absences. You are not present.

Students may keep an A in choir by having only 1 absence. Because we meet only ONCE a week, each successive absence lowers the grade by one letter grade. Please contact the conductor for any extenuating circumstances.

- Rehearsals: Tardies are not a good idea. 2 tardies = 1 absence
- Missing folder or pencil = 1 tardy

On the **3rd absence the student may not be permitted to sing in the concerts, nor attend any further rehearsals.** He/She may earn a "D" ONLY IF he/she completes a written, research paper on a composer and/or composition which will be assigned by the conductor. If the student does not complete the assignment by the last class day, the student will receive an "F" in the course. A "C" may be assigned at the discretion of the Conductor. Students who **fail to attend dress rehearsal will not be permitted to sing in the performance**, and will earn an "F" for the semester. Students who are absent from any performance will earn an "F" for the semester.

Students will not be allowed to drop without the permission of the Conductor which includes a face-to-face scheduled appointment between the student and the Conductor. **NO STUDENTS will be allowed to drop from the course after September 5th.** This is an auditioned ensemble, and selection for the choir is an honor and a privilege.

*****Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the conductor within one week of the excessive absences. Failure on the part of the student to communicate in person or in writing with the Conductor will not be an excuse for earning an F in the course. ***The responsibility is on the STUDENT to communicate with the Conductor. This must be done through a face-to-face meeting.***

*The Choir is only as good as its least dedicated member.
DON'T LET THAT BE YOU!*

VPA Attendance Policy Exception for Ensembles and Production:

***Absence from 10% of scheduled ensemble and production meetings/rehearsals will be taken as evidence that a student does not intend to complete the course. If this occurs prior to the 60% point of the semester, the instructor will withdraw the student from the course with an assigned grade of W. The instructor may reinstate the student if satisfied that the student will resume regular attendance and complete the course. In the event of an excused absence (illness or death in the immediate family or attendance of an MCC sponsored event), prior notification of the missed rehearsal is required.

These policies apply to ALL absences, including illness, school-related functions, family emergencies, etc. Students who know in advance of an absence should inform the instructor BEFORE the missed class (although advance notice does not mean an excused absence). It is your responsibility to inform your instructor of school sponsored activities before the absence. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis.

Withdrawals after the 60% Point in the Semester:

If a student's 10% absences are reached after the official drop date (60% point) the instructor (1) may assign a grade of W provided the student is passing and requests to be withdrawn or (2) will assign a grade of F if the student is failing. In (2) the instructor may assign a grade of W in the case of extenuating circumstances

Illness Policy:

REHEARSALS: Singers have a wide variety of maladies that may prevent them from singing during a rehearsal. A student will be expected to participate using his/her ears more than the voice. The student may be asked to serve as a judge and write a written critique of the choir's performance on their musical selections during the rehearsal in which he/she cannot sing. If a student is too ill to do this, then he/she should be home getting care.

PERFORMANCES: If a singer is too ill to perform, he/she, if able, should plan, in consultation with the Conductor, to attend the performance in uniform and sit in the audience. If it is a sudden illness, the student should send an email to Dr. Sneed as soon as possible. (bsneed@mclennan.edu). The time on the email will be recorded. If there is no communication from the singer concerning the absence, the student will earn a "0" for the concert. Any extenuating circumstances should be brought to the attention of the Conductor as soon as possible through a face-to-face meeting.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

There are no make-ups for being late, missing concerts or rehearsals.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

* [Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](#)

(www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

* [Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)

(www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

Accommodations/ADA Statement

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide

classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

* **[Click Here for more information about Title IX](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.

* *You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link's information.*