

# McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

# COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE – CITY OF WACO SURVEYING**

**EXPERIENCE**

**PHYS 2389 – SECTION 75**

**APRIL K. ANDREAS**

**LAURA WRIGHT**

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#### **Course Description:**

An instructional program designed to integrate on-campus study with practical hands-on work experience in the physical sciences. In conjunction with class seminars, the individual students will set specific goals and objectives in the scientific study of inanimate objects, processes of matter and energy, and associated phenomena. This particular course is focused on developing a research project coordinated with the City of Waco.

#### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

Course requires consent of instructor. This particular section has a prerequisite of a B or better in ENGR 1307.

#### **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

In conjunction with faculty, the individual student will set specific goals and objectives in the study of the physical sciences. The student will demonstrate level-appropriate mastery. The student will work with a faculty member or department-approved professional mentor under the supervision of a faculty member. The student will cooperate in planning and devising his or her responsibilities. The student will meet at regular intervals with the supervisor of record.

**All students will meet on the City of Waco site 2 pm – 5 pm on Tuesdays during the fall semester.** Students will be required to work on a team, attend all team meetings, and complete work outside of meeting times.

#### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Prof Laura Wright  
MCC E-mail: lwright@mclennan.edu  
Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8419  
Office Location: HP 230

Instructor Name: Dr. April K. Andreas  
MCC E-mail: aandreas@mclennan.edu  
Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8130  
Office Location: S 221

#### **Required Text & Materials:**

Required:

- Additional materials may be recommended, depending upon the project.

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

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#### **Additional requirements:**

Students must have a reliable computer and internet connection. Students must be able to demonstrate basic computer literacy skills such as keyboarding, sending and receiving email, and using a web browser.

*This class will use Slack for communication. All major course announcements will be posted in Slack – failure to check Slack will result in you missing important information. Also, anything we hear about jobs, scholarships, speakers, etc., will also be posted to Slack in the #general channel.*

Slack is free and used in the professional community as a workflow management system, so it is good to gain experience with the tool. All “general questions” like “What does it mean on page 37” or “What’s the deal with problem 5” will be directed to Slack, which will allow you and your classmates to support each other, especially in “time-crunch” situations. (Your classmates are a lot more likely to be up at 3 am doing work than I am going to be checking email.) Always be respectful and professional in your participation.

Please bear in mind that Slack is an open communication tool. Please do not ask for or reveal personal information through the tool. Note that anything you post in Slack in channels will be viewable by other channel participants. Do not post anything about personal grades, due dates, or personal issues. Do not post your own solutions to assignments – this is a particularly big deal with programming, where both the risk and temptation of copying is high.

Slack can be used on both a desktop computer and as an app. For more information about Slack in general, visit <https://slack.com/>. You will be invited to our class channel via your MCC student account. Detailed guidelines for Slack are on Brightspace and on Slack itself.

#### **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

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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](http://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.

#### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

Students will learn through independent research, using textbooks and other available resources, along with directed work and discussions with the instructor and the team coordinator at City of Waco. Additional methods may be used as opportunities present themselves.

#### **Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

The student will explore and analyze topics within physics to meet student-defined goals, objectives, and research interests in coordination with a Physics Department faculty member.

- The student will demonstrate the integration of discipline-specific perspectives with their application in a context outside of the traditional academic classroom.
- The student will demonstrate level-appropriate mastery of applied skills in the designated areas of study.
- The student will develop the ability to work in an employer-student relationship to set and achieve specific goals in communication, leadership, and/or critical thinking.

#### **Course Outline or Schedule:**

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Students will develop a research schedule along with the team coordinator at City of Waco. In addition to those individual milestones, students must attend the Tuesday meetings and meet specific deadlines as given in the calendar below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Key Milestone</b>
Sep 24	September Gate Review
Oct 29	October Gate Review
Nov 15	Scholar Day, Friday, 9:30 am – noon
TBD	Formal presentation at MCC
Dec 10	Presentation on site at City of Waco

The remainder of the schedule will be determined on an individual basis between the students, the instructor, and the coordinator at the City of Waco.

**Course Grading Information:**

The student will be graded based on the following: Attendance and participation, performance at gate reviews, evaluations from the City of Waco team coordinator, and the complexity and quality of the work done.

<b>Grade Distribution</b>	
September Gate Review	20%
October Gate Review	20%
Scholar Day Poster	15%
On-campus Presentation	15%
On-site City of Waco Presentation	15%
Employer Performance Review	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**A: 90%+    B: 80% – 89%    C: 70% – 79%    D: 60% – 69%    F: 0% – 59%**

**Gate Reviews:** These will be graded based on professionalism and quality of material presented. The gate reviews will take place in front of one or more City of Waco employees as well as the instructor.

**Scholar Day:** Students will be expected to participate in Scholar Day and present a poster.

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**Presentations:** Students will be required to present both on-campus and on-site regarding their final solutions. Grades will be based on professionalism and quality of material.

**Employer Performance Review:** The City of Waco will provide feedback on each student's team and individual performance. This review will be taken into account and a numerical grade assigned by the instructor.

#### **Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

Attendance is mandatory. *Per MCC policy, you may be automatically dropped after missing 25% of course meetings.* If you are dropped before the official drop date, you will receive a grade of W. If you are dropped after the official drop date, you will receive a grade of F, unless there are highly unusual circumstances.

If you wish to drop this class, you must email me from your MCC student account before 5 pm on the last day for student-initiated drops, with the request "Please drop me from COURSE ID and SECTION NUMBER." An email that says something like, "I would like to drop..." or, "I was thinking about dropping..." or, "I was wondering if I should drop..." will **not** be considered a drop request. (*Just like saying, "I would like to get married," does not mean anyone is going to automatically marry you.*) If the email does not come from your student account, or if the request is verbal, I cannot drop you. Alternatively, there is a form you can fill out and have me sign before 5 pm on the last day for student-initiated drops. (make an appointment to ensure I am on campus to provide the signature).

After submitting your request, you must verify the drop was processed, notifying me in writing within 48 hours of your original request if it was not. Otherwise, you will stay on the roster for the rest of the semester and be awarded the grade earned. Drops past the drop date are only done in documented, extreme, life-crisis circumstances, which usually involve withdrawing from school entirely.

MCC allows for "excused" absences caused by (1) authorized participation in official College functions, (2) personal illness, (3) an illness or a death in the immediate family, or (4) the observance of a religious holy day. It is your responsibility to let me know the reason for an absence the day you return to campus and provide sufficient documentation (doctor's note, email from coach, etc.).

#### **Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

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Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of this educational opportunity.

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

([www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://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](http://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](http://mclennan.edu/disability).

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

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

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

([www.mclennan.edu/titleix](http://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](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at

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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.*

**I reserve the right to change any term on this syllabus at any time during the semester.**