

# McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

# COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

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## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

## **INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

### **COMMERCIAL MUSIC THEORY I**

**MUSC 1213 01**

**CLARK NAUERT**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**NOTE: This is a Blended/Hybrid course.**

#### **COVID 19 Notice:**

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals. We are also concerned for your safety. We are working through COVID-19 guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. This will include smaller class sizes to manage social distancing and proper cleaning techniques. You will have the advantage of a physical classroom experience but may also need to work part of the time online as we adjust to limited classroom capacity. This will also allow us the flexibility to move online if so directed by federal, state and/or local COVID 19 guidelines. Faculty and staff are preparing now to ensure that you have the best experience in the midst of these uncertain times.

# COMMERCIAL MUSIC THEORY

MUSC\_1213\_01

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## **Course Description:**

Introduction to chord progressions, scales and modes, song forms, and harmonic techniques used in commercial music. Topics include modern chord notation and chord voicings, scales and scale usage, intervals. Semester Hours 2 (3 lec)

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

None

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

Students should bring the text, staff paper, pencils and face coverings to every class meeting.

## **Instructor Information:**

Clark Nauert

MCC E-mail: [cnauert@mclennan.edu](mailto:cnauert@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: 299-8258

Office Location: PAC 101

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: will be posted 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes

## **Required Text & Materials:**

Title: Commercial Music Theory I Workbook

Author: Nauert

Publisher: MCC Bookstore

**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).

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## **MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found [here](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf) ([https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)).

## **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](https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html)**  
(<https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html>)

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.

## **Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

## **Instructional Uses of Email:**

Check your school email at least once every day. I will at times send out notices regarding assignments, tests, supplemental materials for study and other important information by email.

## **Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails.

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## **Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward the emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may become lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

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

Lecture, exams, quizzes, homework, class discussion. **My plan for this semester is that all students in this class will meet face to face with the instructor on both Tuesdays and Thursdays unless the college makes a change due to public health concerns**

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

The student will be able to explain scale construction, interval classification and chord spellings; analyze and identify commercial music chord progressions using standard lead sheet and chord symbols and Nashville numbers; and harmonize selected melodies with appropriate chord voicing.

## **Course Outline or Schedule:**

### **WEEK 1**

Origins of music notation

The Musical Alphabet

Intervals – half steps and whole steps

Pitches/Note Names on the musical staff

Major Scales – construction – calculating major and perfect intervals using the major scale

### **WEEK 2**

Key Signatures

The Circle of Fifths

Notes on the staff continued

Major Scale review

### **WEEK 3**

Major Scales

Using key signatures to construct major scales

Major Pentatonic scales

### **WEEK 4**

Review:

notation basics

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intervals

key signatures

major scales

major pentatonic scales

**UNIT 1 Test - on Thursday**

## **WEEK 5**

Major triads

Building triads from scales

Recognizing triads as patterns

Diatonic triads

Chords expressed as numbers – 1, 4 and 5 chords

## **WEEK 6**

Major scale review

Triads in inversion

Key signature review

Chord progressions

Chord movement in 4ths – the 2m – 5 – 1 progression

## **WEEK 7**

Review:

Major Scales

Major triads

Triad inversions

Diatonic triads

Chord progression – 1- 4- 5, 2m 5 – 1

**UNIT 2 Test – on Thursday**

## **WEEK 8**

Minor scales – Natural, Harmonic, Melodic

The minor circle of 5ths

Minor key signatures

Building the Natural Minor Scale using minor key signatures

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## **WEEK 9**

Minor Triads

Minor triad – Major triad comparison

Recognizing minor triads as patterns

Relative major and minor

## **WEEK 10/11**

Diatonic minor chords

Modes of the major scale

The modes analyzed relative to major and natural minor scales

Modes and Diatonic chords

## **WEEK 12/13**

**UNIT 3 Test** – *Tuesday* of week 12

Chromatic intervals

Augmented and Diminished intervals

Melodic intervals

Harmonic intervals

Augmented and Diminished triads

Diatonic chord analysis

## **Week 14**

Form and Structure

Song Form

All triads – root position and inversion

Chromatic Intervals continued

## **Week 15**

Semester review

## **Week 16 – Final Exam**

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## **Course Grading Information:**

The final grade will be based on a point system of 1-100. The final grade will be an average of 1) the 3 major test grades, 2) homework, daily grades and quizzes 3) the final exam grade. Each of the 3 components will count as 1/3 of the grade.

90 to 100 – A

80 to 89 – B

70 to 79- C

60 to 69 – D

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

Homework assignments will be given regularly throughout the semester. Assignments that are one week late will have the grade reduced by one letter grade. For each additional **class meeting** that the assignments are late another letter grade will be taken off. **Turn these in on time.** The averaged grades for all homework assignments will count as one-third of your final grade.

Major tests can be made up by appointment with the instructor. The Final Exam can be made up only in the event that extreme circumstances prevent you from attending the day of the final. Decisions on acceptable circumstances for missing the final and being allowed to take a makeup final are at the discretion of the instructor.

## **ATTENDANCE**

ATTENDANCE WILL BE KEPT. IF A STUDENT MISSES 7 CLASS MEETINGS, HE/SHE WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS.

3 TARDIES WILL COUNT AS 1 ABSENCE

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

### **CLASSROOM CONDUCT**

- Face coverings must be worn in class. Students refusing to wear a face covering will be required to leave the classroom.
- Cell phones must be turned off or set on vibrate.
- No text messaging during class.
- Do not talk to the person next to you **during lecture**. If you have a question, raise your hand.
- No earbud use in class during lecture or class discussion.
- If you leave before class is over without consulting the instructor you will be counted absent for the day.
- No food or drink in class except for water bottles with a lid or cap.

**Failure to adhere to the conduct outlined above will result in disciplinary action and may result in dismissal from the course.**

- No use of profanity will be allowed. No threatening or hostile language or behavior will be allowed.

***Any instance of this type of behavior will result in removal from the classroom and may result in dismissal from the course.***

**\* [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](#)**

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

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



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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 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. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting the following website: <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

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.*