

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

LEARNING FRAMEWORK

EDUC – 1300

Dr. Amanda Castro

NOTE: This is a 16-week Blended/Hybrid course.

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Course Description:

A study of the a) research and theory in the psychology of learning, cognition, and motivation; b) factors that impact learning; and c), application of learning strategies. Theoretical models of strategic learning, cognition, and motivation serve as the conceptual basis for the introduction of college-level student academic strategies. Students use assessment instruments (e.g., learning inventories) to help them identify their own strengths and weaknesses as strategic learners. Students are ultimately expected to integrate and apply the learning skills discussed across their own academic programs and become effective and efficient learners. Students developing these skills should be able to continually draw from the theoretical models they have learned.
Semester Hours: 3

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

There are no prerequisite for this class.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Please check email and Brightspace daily. I will use these methods to communicate with you often. Please sign up for MyAlert (information on MCC main page). The college uses this system to communicate important information to students.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Amanda Castro

MCC Email: acastro@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8789

Office Location: CSC 126G (email to meet)

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: e-mail for appointment

Other: Email from your MCC student e-mail is rarely blocked. Please use it!

Required Text & Materials:

Title: P.O.W.E.R. Learning, Strategies for Success in College and Life

Author: Robert S. Feldman

Edition: Eighth Edition

Publisher: McGraw Hill Education

ISBN: 978-1-26-022874-8

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Note: Your e-book is included in the price of this course. You do not have to buy a separate hard copy of the text. You will access your e-book and some assignments through the McGrawHill Connect website. You may purchase a hard copy of the book if you would like.

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Reading assignments Online discussion boards Individual and group assignments Quizzes Small and large group collaboration Review of relevant research Literature analysis Use of digital media and/or recording of student performance (read-aloud books, etc.) Students are expected to complete the weekly reading, participate in Discussion Board s(DB) as assigned, and complete any quizzes or activities and papers as assigned.

Discussion Boards: *After reviewing each week's material, you will be asked to respond to a prompt that the instructor will provide in a discussion board. The initial response should be well thought out and substantial enough to indicate that you have a firm grasp on the week's materials. You must then respond to one classmate with substantial posts. Responses like "I agree" or "Good point" will not be counted. Your responses should be at least 3-6 sentences long. Please do not text-speak, such as "LOL" or "BFF" as these will not count either. Avoid posting in ALL CAPS as this looks like YOU ARE YELLING at the other student. There will be instances when you will be asked to respond with a video post.*

Activities: *Various assignments and activities will be completed during class periods that are intended to expand and enhance the student's understanding about important topics. Some of these include a reflective paper, a presentation, and psychological connection activities.*

Noel Levitz Assessment Profile: *Each student will complete the Noel Levitz pre and post assessment which identifies areas for development.*

Students will need to allow regular weekly time to read the assigned material and complete the assignments. A reasonable level of self-discipline is needed for successful completion of the course. Since the course is constructed around online participation, the student should have knowledge of using a computer, Web browser, and email; the ability to create and save documents; the ability to send and receive electronic documents; and a general understanding of online technologies and appropriate online behavior. The basic MCC Computer requirements

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are provided in the Brightspace link listed above. Grades will be posted via the Brightspace page for this course.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:

1. Increase the student's level of knowledge and use of motivational, behavioral, and cognitive factors that impact learning.
2. Improve the student's abilities and actions in learning and study strategies.
3. Provide student preparation for the rigors of a college education.
4. Provide students with an overview of the emotional intelligence skills they will need to be successful in the college environment.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course, including online courses. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

Blended classes have one weekly synchronous meeting and weekly online assignments. Attendance is taken for both synchronous meetings and online assignments. Online, attendance will be taken via the online Discussion board posts on Brightspace. These posts will be considered classroom participation due to this being partly an online course. Should you not participate this can be considered an absence. Therefore, it is very important that you complete your discussion board assignments on time and thoroughly.

- A student is present if they are physically present in the synchronous meeting: either in the classroom or on Zoom (depending on the course format)
- A student is absent if they fail to complete the online Discussion Board assignments in a learning unit/module
- A student is dropped from the class if they are absent from every meeting and online assignments prior to the Census Date.
- A student is withdrawn from the class once they accumulate eight (8) total absences prior to the 60% date of the semester.

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- After the 60% date, students who are passing the course may be withdrawn upon their request.

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

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

Course Outline or Schedule:

The following is a TENTATIVE schedule for the semester. Circumstances may cause the schedule to be changed. If changes are necessary, they will be posted on the course Announcement screen. Weekly units go from Monday until Sunday each week. All assignments, activities, discussion boards (except for the initial discussion board posts – they are due the Thursday before the Sunday), quizzes, etc., are due by Sunday evening at 11:59 pm.

	Weekly Topic
Module 1 8/21	Introductions and Syllabus Overview Email & Brightspace/Connect Orientation
Module 2 8/28	Introduction to Resources
Module 3 9/4	Ch. 1 – Becoming a Successful Student

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Module 4 9/11	Ch. 9 – Technology & Information Competency
Module 5 9/18	Ch. 2 - Time Management
Module 6 9/25	Ch. 13 - Stress, Health, & Wellness
Module 7 10/2	Ch. 3 - Learning Styles, Self-Concept, and Values
Module 8 10/9	Ch. 8 - Choosing Your Courses and Major

Module 9 10/16	Ch. 10 – Making Good Decisions
Module 10 10/23	Ch. 11 – Diversity & Your Relationship with Others
Module 11 10/30	Ch. 12 - Money Matters
Module 12 11/6	Ch. 4 - Taking Notes & Ch. 5 – Taking Tests

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Module 13 11/13	Ch. 6 – Reading and Remembering
Module 14 11/20	Ch. 7 – Writing and Speaking
Module 15 11/27	Course Discussion Regarding Results of Noel Levitz College Student Inventory
Module 16 12/4	Course Review, Finals, & Course Evaluations

Course Grading Information:

Assignment	Percentage
Weekly Activities	35%
Core Activities	35%
Discussion Boards	15%
Final	15%
<u>Total</u>	100

Total Points	<i>90-100</i>	<i>80-89</i>	<i>70-79</i>	<i>60-69</i>	<i>59 & below</i>
Letter Grade	A	B	C	D	F

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Incomplete Grade: *Only students who have completed and passed 80% of the course requirements will be eligible for an incomplete. Illness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances needs to be present; and consultation with the instructor is mandatory.*

Course Expectations:

- ☐ Check Brightspace EVERY week. A weekly announcement will be posted each week.
- ☐ Participation in all online activities and discussions.
- ☐ Turn in assignments on the posted due date.
- ☐ Communicate effectively with your instructor in a timely manner.

Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

*Late work is typically not accepted and assignments will close and no longer be accessible after the due date. However, I am not unreasonable. Under certain, documented circumstances (example: documented serious illness/injury of self or immediate relative), I will consider accepting late work. On the other hand, discussion boards are an online, interactive assignment and completing these late is not allowed. **Communication is very important** – if you are experiencing extenuating circumstances, please reach out to me so we can develop a plan for you to be successful despite your circumstances. Graded assignments are due at the beginning of your class time or as stated.*

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

In online environments, 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 the education opportunity.

Each student is strongly recommended to participate in class. Due to the diversity of the students, many different viewpoints will be held. Students may not only disagree with each other at times, but the students and instructor may also find that they have different views on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance the class and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be more encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that your grade will not be adversely affected by any beliefs and/or ideas

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expressed in class or assignments. Respect will be given for the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions. The instructor expects students to also treat each other with respect and manifest appropriate classroom behavior. The instructor reserves the right to act to protect the decorum of the learning environment and the image of MCC.

If you are using Zoom to meet with the professor and/or other students, please ensure that you are dressed appropriately and are in a location where you can focus on your responsibilities as a student. Example: it is not appropriate to attend a Zoom class while laying in bed and/or half dressed. Please be respectful of others and mute yourself if background noise will be a problem.

Behavioral guidelines are outlined in the “Conduct Policy” portion of the Highlander Student Guide. Any behavior which disrupts the learning process will be grounds for dismissal from the class. If childcare is a problem, please confer with Student Services for alternatives to avoid bringing children to class. Students are expected to follow the General Conduct Policy in the Highlander Guide. 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 the education opportunity.