

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

MIDI

MUSC_1331_001

SHANE HALL

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

Course Description:

The student will be able to demonstrate acceptable competency in the use of a functional MIDI system, including synthesizer basics, Reason sequencing applications, MIDI files, and Finale music notation software.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Prerequisites: None / Corequisites: MUSCL 1331

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Flash drive, headphones or ear buds

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: **Shane Hall**

MCC Email: **shall@mclennan.edu**

Office Phone Number: **254-299-8217**

Office Location: **BPAC 113**

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: **TBD**

Required Text & Materials:

None

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Lecture/Quiz/Lab/Software Tutorial

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

- 1.) Understand synthesizer terminology.
- 2.) Understand the basic synthesizer engine.
- 3.) Understand the basic parameters of the MIDI protocol.
- 4.) Perform basic sequencing operations using Reason.
- 5.) Perform advanced editing operations using Reason.
- 6.) Import and export MIDI files between different programs.
- 7.) Create a chord chart using Finale.
- 8.) Create a lead sheet using Finale.
- 9.) Record sequences in Reason and convert these files into lead sheets using Finale.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

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.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Course Outline

8/21 - Introduction to Course / Acoustics of Sound

Unit One - Synthesizer Terminology / Basic Synth Engine / Intro to MIDI

8/23 - Synthesizer Terminology / Basic Synthesizer Engine Components

8/28 - Continued / Modulation

8/30 - MIDI Protocol Basics

9/4 -Labor Day Holiday

9/6 - MIDI Data Types / Splits, Layers, and Zones

9/11—Using MIDI Data / Review

9/13 - Written Test

Unit Two - Basic Sequencing and Editing with Reason

9/18 - Intro to Reason / The Reason Rack

9/20 - Getting Started with Reason

9/25 - Using Cut, Copy, And Paste Tweaks / Lab

9/27 - Sequencing with Reason

10/2 - Editing Data with Reason / Lab

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10/4 - Continued / Lab
10/9 - MIDI Files
10/11 - Continued / Lab
10/16 - Lab
10/18 - Reason Sequencing Project Due

Unit Three - Basic Notation with Finale

10/23 - Intro to Finale / Simple Entry, Staff, Key Signature, Text, Time Signature Tools
10/25 - Clef, Measure, Mass Mover, Repeat Tools
10/30 - Review / Lab

Unit Four - Advanced Notation with Finale

11/1 - Chord Tool / Creating Chord Charts
11/6 - Lab
11/8 - Lyric Tool / Creating Lead Sheets
11/13 - Lab
11/15 - Advanced Finale Tools / Review
11/20 – Lab
11/22 – Thanksgiving Holiday
11/27 - Lab
11/29 - Finale Project Due

Course Grading Information:

The final grade for this course will be determined by three factors: the number of competencies successfully completed by each student (25%), the grade average for each test and assignment (50%), and the final course project (25%). The minimum passing grade for each competency, each test and assignment, and the final project is 70%. The grading scale for competencies is as follows:

- 9 competencies - A
- 8 competencies - B
- 7 competencies - C
- 6 competencies - D (**will not** be accepted as a prerequisite for future classes)
- 5 competencies or less - F

Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

Late work will be accepted at the discretion of the Instructor. Communication with the Instructor when you have to miss class is essential for me to work with you and accept your late work!

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

1.) Cell phones - please turn off your cell phone before coming to class. If you are expecting an emergency call during class please advise your instructor. Earbuds should not be worn during class (we are studying music, right?) and text messaging is not allowed at any time. **If you send or receive a text message during a test you will automatically fail that test.**

2.) Food and Drinks - there are areas on campus as well as in the PAC for eating and relaxing. **Please do not bring food to class.** If you are unable to survive more than an hour without food you may wish to reconsider your choice of majors and switch to the food service industry. **No drinks are allowed in the MIDI lab, the class piano lab, the recording studio, or any other areas that contain electrical equipment** - this assures your safety while protecting the investment that MCC has made in technology for your benefit.

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

(<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 additional guidelines specific to this course.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

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. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

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

disabilities@mclennan.edu 2542998122 Room
319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

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 acting Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a

confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It 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.

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/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>).

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg. Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

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 at

https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teachingandlearning/FacultyandStaffCommons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

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 notified via 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.

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. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward 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 be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.