



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

APPLIED COMMERCIAL MUSIC – COMMERCIAL GUITAR

MUSP 1105.002

Patrick McKee

This is a 16-week course.

Note: This Is A Blended/ Hybrid Course.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

FALL 2023

Course Description:

APPLIED COMMERCIAL GUITAR

MUSP 1105

Provides private instruction in commercial guitar with goals related to proficiency in performing commercial music styles (blues, rock, country, jazz and other styles of popular music). The student will:

- 1) demonstrate proficiency in commercial music repertoire and technique (as demonstrated by successful playing of weekly assignments in lessons)
- 2) develop a professional, disciplined approach to practice and preparation (keep a daily practice journal and bring it to each guitar lesson, also see number 1 above).
- 3) attend departmental concerts as assigned
- 4) attend Music Industry Careers Thursday evening meetings when scheduled
- 5) Present a juried performance, with his/her instructor, for string faculty at the end of the semester. See **Course Outline** on page 4 of this syllabus for more information on the jury.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Corequisite: concurrent enrollment in a Commercial Music Ensemble – exceptions must be approved by program director.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Students will keep a practice journal in which practice time, material practiced, questions and observations will be logged. The instructor will check the journal weekly.

A jury will be played at the semester's end for the string faculty. This will demonstrate the work done and progress achieved during the semester. Scales, arpeggios, chord studies and several songs will need to be prepared for this event.

Students are required to practice at least one hour per day. Guitar majors should set aside time to practice at least 2 hours per day.

It is highly recommend that students use a metronome. Free metronome apps are available for the smartphone of your choice. A metronome can also be found for anywhere from \$20.00 to \$55.00 at local music stores or online. A \$20.00 metronome will be more than adequate.

Also, an electronic tuner will be very helpful. It will allow you to tune your guitar quickly before class and every time you practice. Once again, tuner apps are available for the smartphone of your choice. The free apps may not be as helpful/precise as the apps that must be purchased. You can also find a tuner for anywhere from \$20.00 to \$50.00 or more at a music store or online. If you're not sure about which one to get, email or call me (299-8258).

Instructor Information:

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Instructor Name:

MCC E-mail: pmckee@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 299-8240

Office Location: PAC 101

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

Required Text & Materials:

TEXT: Text will include one of the following: Mel Bay Modern Guitar Method I by Mel Bay.
Fast Track Guitar 1 - Blake Neely and Jeff Schroedl, published by Hal Leonard;

Reading Studies - William Leavitt, published by Berklee press.

See your instructor before purchasing the text for this course.

As in any other course, your textbook is essential. You cannot pass this course without completing the material required in the textbook.

<http://www.mclennan.edu/students/bookstore.html>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Projects, student performances / presentations, applied quizzes.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

To develop the skills necessary to work as a professional guitarist by learning the following (at the current skill level of the student):

- 1) play a variety of **accompaniment** styles.
- 2) **improvise** using **scales** and **arpeggio** patterns combined with knowledge of chord-scale relationships.
- 3) **read** chord charts and melody lines.
- 4) play a continually expanding repertoire of **songs**.

Course Outline:

Weekly grades will be given based on the student's progress toward the goals assigned at each weekly lesson. Fourteen 50 minute lessons will be given during the course of the semester. There will be no lesson the first week of classes while student and instructor schedules are put in place.

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There will not be a lesson during the last week of the semester as it is exam week and the student will have played the equivalent of the guitar lesson exam the week before on jury day.

Five written reviews of live performances by MCC performing groups will be turned in before the end of the semester. See the instructor for details concerning the contents of the reviews. This will count as 12% of the final grade.

A jury will be played at the end of the semester. This will be a short presentation of no more than 10 minutes. The student will play material representative of the study done during the semester. This typically consists of the performance of a song or songs and some technique studies. The student will play the melody, chord progression (with proper accompaniment style), and improvise over the chord progression of the song(s) assigned for the jury. Technical studies such as scales and arpeggios may also be assigned for the jury. The jury performance will count as 12% of the final grade.

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.

[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.

Updated 07/18/2023



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.