



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**LEARNING FRAMEWORK
EDUC 1300 C01**

Dr. Amanda Castro

NOTE: This is a 16-week online course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

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Course Description:

EDUC 1300 – Learning Framework

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

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.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

There are no prerequisite for this class.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Amanda Castro
MCC Email: acastro@mclennan.edu
Office Number: (254) 299-8720
Office Location: CSC / CDC
Office/Conference Hours: Email for Appointment
Other: Email from your MCC student e-mail is rarely blocked. Use it!

Required Text & Materials:

Title: ***POWER Learning, Strategies for Success in College and Life***
(With Connect Access Code)
Author: Feldman
Edition: 8th Edition
ISBN: 9781260904970
Bundle Text w/ Connect Access Code:
ISBN 9781260902761

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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 McGraw-Hill 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:

Lectures
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 (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.

Reading Assignments:

As you read in the e-textbook, (provided through Brightspace/McGraw Hill Connect after you log in) there will be questions that pop up throughout the chapter to check for understanding. These are to help you better understand the chapter.

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.

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Some of these include two reflective papers, a virtual presentation, and psychological connection activities.

Quizzes:

Most chapters will have a quiz. You should complete your reading for the chapter prior to taking the quiz via McGraw-Hill Connect. You are welcome to have the book open in another browser while taking these quizzes.

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 are provided in the **D2L/Brightspace** link listed above.

Grades will be posted via the D2L Brightspace page for this course.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- **Critical Thinking (CT)** -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill (COM)** -- to include effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Empirical & Quantitative Skills (EQS)** -- to include applications of scientific and mathematical concepts.
- **Social Responsibility (SR)** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global

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Core Objectives will be taught through lectures (recorded and via ZOOM), assigned readings, and class/small group discussions. They will be assessed by objective exams, written assignments, and/or class projects.

Upon successful completion of the course the student will:

1. Increase the student's level of knowledge and use of motivational, behavior, 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 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 chapter readings and 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
Week 1 1/10	Introductions and Syllabus Overview Email & BrightSpace/Connect Orientation
Week 2 1/17	Ch. 1 – Becoming a Successful Student
Week 3 1/24	Ch. 2 - Time Management
Week 4 1/31	Ch. 9 – Technology & Information Competency

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Week 5 2/7	Ch. 3 - Learning Styles, Self-Concept, and Values
Week 6 2/14	Ch. 4 - Taking Notes & Ch. 5 – Taking Tests
Week 7 2/21	Ch. 13 - Stress, Health, & Wellness MCC Counseling Services
Week 8 2/28	Ch. 11 - Diversity and Your Relationships
Week 9 3/7	SPRING BREAK
Week 10 3/14	Ch. 8 - Choosing Your Courses and Major MCC Advising
Week 11 3/21	Ch. 6 – Reading and Remembering
Week 12 3/28	Ch. 7 – Writing and Speaking MCC Libraries
Week 13 4/4	Ch. 12 - Money Matters MCC Financial Office
Week 14 4/11	Ch. 11 – Making Good Decisions
Week 15 4/18	Course Discussion Regarding Results of Noel Levitz College Student Inventory

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Week 16 4/25	Course Review, Final Project/Exam, & Course Evaluations
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Course Grading Information:

Assignment	Percentage
Weekly Activities	30%
Core Activities	30%
Discussion Boards	10%
Reflective Papers	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

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. 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. ***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

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successful despite your circumstances. Graded assignments are due at the beginning of your class time or as stated.

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.

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 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.

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Ethics

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student found cheating will be subject to grade reduction, receiving a zero on assignments that involve cheating/plagiarism, and/or dismissal from the course.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited to:

- Copying the work of another student
- Seeking excused absences/tardiness under false pretenses
- Plagiarism (claiming as your own work the work of another)

This course will teach you to think critically. Critical thinking is essential for an educator. Please maintain your integrity and do your own work – there is no reason to cheat in this, or any other course.

[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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C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

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

254-299-8122

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 Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC 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/>

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 a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and 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.

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

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/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.

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.

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.

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.