

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Musical Theatre Pit Orchestra

MUEN 1125 80

DANIEL FARRIS

NOTE: This is an 8-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 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.

Large Ensemble Pit Orchestra

MUEN 1125 80

Course Description:

Provides musical theatre experience by singing or playing in a pit orchestra in a musical production. Each section may be repeated for credit.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

The pit orchestra is comprised of professional musicians and MCC students. Students must be recommended for the course by their private instructor or by the music director/conductor. The music director/conductor will select all members of the ensemble. The ensemble and/or individual members will play for the Theatre Department Musical, and/or with the Music Theatre Ensemble.

The course curriculum for MUEN 1125.80 satisfies Student Learning outcomes 1 and 4

1. To demonstrate an understanding of works in the arts and humanities as expressions of a scope and variety of individual and human values within historical and social contexts.
4. To engage in the creative process or interpretive performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the author or visual or performing artist.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Names: Daniel Ferris

MCC E-mail: dferris@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8177

Office Location: Fine Arts 105

Office Hours: (please call for appointment)

Required Text & Materials:

Music will be made available to orchestra and chorus members approximately one month prior to the production dates. Members are responsible for keeping their books in good condition, including erasing all marks (pencil only). The book must be returned immediately after the final performance. Orchestra members are required to pay the set cost of the book if it is not returned, or if it is not in good condition when returned.

Scripts and/or music scores (if cast in a musical). Footwear: If cast in a musical, all students must provide their own rehearsal shoes (jazz sneakers, oxfords, ballet shoes, and/or tap shoes).

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Members will learn their instrumental part and perform with the pit orchestra for the production. Members are expected to learn the music on their own, or with the aid of their private instructor. There will be at least one

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orchestra-only rehearsal. Members who have questions or difficulty with the music should contact the conductor/music director as soon as possible.

During the rehearsal process, the conductor/music director will have notes about the music. The members are expected to mark their music (in pencil) accordingly.

The pit orchestra will perform at all performances, dress rehearsals, as well as other rehearsals to be announced by the music director/conductor.

If you are a performer in this production you may be asked to:

1. Research of the playwright, and meeting with the dramaturg.
2. Table readings of the play and discussions pertaining to the units of action.
3. Research of the time period, and analysis of the physical, mental and emotional characteristics suggested by the playwright.
4. Physical blocking of scenes by the director and/or organic collaborative blocking by the director and actors.
5. Movement analysis by the actor of his/her character, and their function within the play structure.
6. Vocal analysis of characterization including pitch, tempo timbre, and dialects (if required).
7. Development of objectives through collaboration between director and actor.
8. Memorization techniques and developing character detail through run-throughs.
9. Field trips to professional and/or semi-professional theatres if time permits.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Members will learn to perform in a musical theatre production, and improve ensemble skills.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Weeks 1-5: Members will individually study and learn the music.

Weeks 5-6: Members will rehearse as an ensemble, and play for rehearsals and performances.

Course Grading Information:

Members are expected to know their music prior to the first rehearsal. Members are required to attend every rehearsal called by the music director/conductor. Absence from a rehearsal is unprofessional and inexcusable. Students who attend all rehearsals and learn the music correctly will receive a grade of A.

Students who do not learn music or attend all rehearsals will have their grades lowered, and/or possibly receive a failing grade.

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Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Students are required to attend all called rehearsals. In case of emergency, the student is expected to notify the conductor/music director as soon as possible. Members are expected to find a replacement player with equal skill, but must first notify the conductor/music director.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Orchestra members are expected to treat each other with respect, and to pay attention to the conductor during rehearsals. In regards to performances, students are expected to maintain proper performance etiquette and to inform their family and friends of proper performance etiquette.

*** [Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)**

(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](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

(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.

* *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.*

McLennan

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.