

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

MUEN 1132

COURSE SYLLABUS

NOTE: This is a 16-week 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.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

MUEN 1132

Course Description:

This class provides the opportunity for the study and performance of percussion music in a small ensemble setting. We will play tradition percussion ensemble music, world percussion pieces, body percussion and “stomp like” pieces, along with jazz fusion arrangements featuring synth players from the MIC Piano studio. You don’t have to be a music major but you need to be able to read music and have basic rudimental hand skills. The teacher reserves the right to audition and deny entry into the course based on the above mentioned criteria. If you are lacking in these areas, you should enroll in private percussion lessons, MUSI 1117 or MUAP 1257 and I will gladly accept you when you have the basic skills covered.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Student needs to have a prior background in band /marching/percussion performance. Student must have knowledge of drum rudiments, rudimentary hand speed, keyboard knowledge, or percussion experience. Sign up for percussion lessons MUAP 1257 to help learn parts and acquire techniques needed to play parts.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

1. The ability to read music at the high school level
2. The ability to play the 40 PASIC drum rudiments
3. The ability to play all major and minor scales and arpeggios on a keyboard
4. Knowledge of tuning timpani
5. Some band percussion experience

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Jonathan Kutz

MCC Email: jkutz@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254 299 8110

Office Location: MTA 115

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: TBA

Other Instruction Information:

Required Text & Materials:

All music is handled by the instructor. I have a selection of mallets but you should bring your mallet bag. Your responsibility is to have your own sticks and music.

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

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Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Participation in an ensemble concentrating on rehearsal techniques, performance and repertoire. We will be preparing for a concert at the end of the semester and possible touring dates to local high schools. We rehearse 3 times a week. Rehearsals are 3 to 4 o'clock every Monday and Wednesday and Thursday nights from 5:30 -7:00 (when needed—usually 4 weeks before a concert.)

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

- Your assignment is to come to each rehearsal with your part ready at the assigned tempo. We will work tempi slow to fast and your job is to get it slow and perfect, then medium and perfect, then fast and perfect. Students who don't learn their parts will be given one chance to redeem themselves (either at a lesson or next rehearsal) and then they will be replaced. Remember, you get graded in this class and this is a major part of your grade.
- To be able to put together pieces quickly and efficiently. Rehearsal isn't where you practice your part (that's in the practice room), but rather where we can put the finishing touches on the song by working on dynamics, phrasing and proper tempo.
- To work up enough material for a one hour concert performed every spring semester.
- Showing up is the most important aspect of this course, every part is crucial and a rehearsal is wasted if not all players are there.
- If signed up for lessons or this ensemble, you will have access to two practice rooms, one with a marimba and one with vibes and timpani, PAC 127 and 128. I will show these to you during our first class. You will have to go to the MCC Physical Plant to get your card swiped in order for your card to be activated to enter all practice rooms.

Course Outline or Schedule:

All music will be taken care of by the instructor. Please bring music, sticks and mallets with you as well as a pencil. Forgetting your music or stick bag is also grounds for grade lowering. The weekly schedule is dictated by the number of students enrolled and their strengths and weaknesses. It's easy, please show up on time, with your assignment learned. For the most part, that is an assigned part at an assigned tempo.

Concert Dress—Black dress pants and black dress shirt.

Course Grading Information:

- Perfect attendance along with good part preparation will provide you with an easy "A".
- I grade you on attendance, part execution and preparation (on time and having all supplies). We all start out at a certain playing level. I try to take this into consideration when assigning parts. Your job is to learn the part and be ready for each rehearsal. No one wants to be the weak link in the ensemble, with practice, you can guarantee you won't be!

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---1 absence is allowed. 2 absences your grade will be lowered by one grade and 3 absences you will be dropped unless you contact me ASAP about your problem. Please communicate with all your professors when you contact a major illness, just keep us in the loop or you might get dropped.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

--- I will assign the grade of F if you miss 3 rehearsals. If you miss 2 rehearsals, your grade will be lowered by one grade. Please don't miss!

---If you are late, you are absent, please be early to set up equipment. I will also show up 10 minutes early to open doors and cabinets.

---Please let me know in the morning if you are sick and can't make a rehearsal, I can prepare for your absence.

---Missing a concert is the worst thing ever. Your grade will be lowered by one grade. Sickness happens, but the show must go on. Take care of yourself during the semester and stay healthy. You can bet that I will not miss important rehearsals or a concert.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Concert Dress—Black dress pants and black dress shirt.

--- I will assign the grade of F if you miss 3 rehearsals. If you miss 2 rehearsals, your grade will be lowered by one grade. Please don't miss!

---If you are late, you are absent, please be early to set up equipment. I will also show up 10 minutes early to open doors and cabinets.

---Please let me know in the morning if you are sick and can't make a rehearsal, I can prepare for your absence.

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[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.

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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.