McLennan
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Chorale

MUEN_1141_02

Dr. Bonnie Borshay Sneed

Gail Wade, pianist

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.

Course Description:

Any major choral group, campus choir, chorus, or swing choir. Provides the opportunity for the study and performance of music in large and small ensembles. These courses are open through audition to all students but are strongly recommended for all music majors and minors in their area of primary emphasis. Semester Hour 1 (3 lec/3 lab)

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Placement by audition

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Students will be successful through daily attendance and practice of their repertoire.
Rehearsal, assignments, and Performance are required.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Bonnie Sneed
MCC Email: bsneed@mclennan.edu (not answered between 6pm and 9am)
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8275 (cell will be given in class – text between 9am and 6pm)
Office Location: BPAC 100
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: TBA
Other Instruction Information: Visit my personal website: https://sites.google.com/site/bbsneed4

Required Text & Materials:

Music is provided. Concert dress is required for all performances. All singers must be present and on-time in complete uniform (including the shoes, socks, etc) for all performances. Failure to do so will result in a lowering of the grade for the performance. Music is provided, but if it is lost, then the student is required to pay a $35.00 missing music fee. A hold will be placed on the student's account until the music is returned or the payment is made.

We don't want your money; just don't lose the music!

Uniforms:
Formal blouses and skirts will be provided for those who prefer them.
Tuxedos are for those who prefer those.
Option, but only with prior approval:

TOPS: Preferred black Tuxedo shirts (banded, black tux shirt can be purchased here)
https://www.uniformalwearhouse.com/black_banded_collar_tux_shirt
BOTTOMS: Tuxedo pants or dress slacks. Not dockers or khakis.
Black shoes, with NO HEELS in excess of 2 inches - NO flipflops, athletic shoes, or sandals

Sing at MCC polos will be provided as needed. Replacement cost for lost or damaged (including smoke aroma) items will be $25.00.

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Lecture, rehearsal and performance. Participation and attendance are a significant portion of this course.

Rehearsal/Participation Expectations (51% of the grade)

- On time to rehearsal means EARLY
- Music Folder and Pencil are ALWAYS present
- Take notes and Practice OUTSIDE OF REHEARSAL
- Demonstrate excellent posture and vocal technique
- Respect each other and improve as a Singer
- Drink Water – bring a bottle to class
- Absolutely NO hairspray, perfume or cologne
- NO cell phones, NO whining

Performance Expectations (49% of the grade) – this includes Dress Rehearsals

- On time for dress rehearsal and performance call means EARLY
- Memorization is complete and music in the folder, if needed, is present
- Dress rehearsal does NOT mean come in your uniform – it means we run the entire concert
- Uniform is in clean and well-presented condition, and all parts are present (Concert only)
- Absolutely NO hairspray, perfume or cologne
- NO cell phones, NO whining

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

To rehearse and perform a large variety of choral music from the 16th-century to recently-composed choral works; in English and a variety of foreign languages; from a cappella to accompanied major works with orchestra. This repertoire will aid in the development of your vocal and choral singing and strengthen your skills in communication, team work, critical thinking and problem-solving.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Occasionally, extra rehearsals or performances may occur for extenuating circumstances. Every attempt will be made to work out schedule challenges. Dates are subject to change and will be announced through email and in rehearsal. You will be given enough time to re-schedule work with your employer. Saying you have to work is ***not*** ***an automatic excuse for missing a required event.***

Because of COVID, all concerts and venues are tentatively scheduled

Schedule to be passed out the first week of school.

Course Grading Information:

Short answer? BE AT ALL REHEARSALS, ON TIME, WITH MUSIC AND A PENCIL!!

(51% participation, 49% dress rehearsal and performances):

Everyone must attend rehearsals in order for the utmost collaboration and teamwork to occur among the singers. The choir's sound needs to be shaped and molded, and each person's unique voice contributes to the choral tone. Further, rehearsals require many markings and process-oriented activities that can only happen when the singer is present.

Performances are the final product of weeks of rehearsals, and are the only method of assessment for this portion of the grade. Students who fail to attend performances miss the opportunity to complete their own progress and prevent the entire ensemble from performing at its potential. **One cannot earn an 'A' for the semester if he/she does not attend all dress rehearsals and concerts.**

Attendance Policy – or "2 for free"

Absences are not excused or unexcused. They are simply absences.
You are not present. You cannot help your section or your choir move forward.

Students may keep an A for Participation in choir by having only 2 absences.
On the 3rd absence the grade is a "B".

- Rehearsals: Tardies are not a good idea. 3 tardies = 1 absence
- Missing folder or pencil = 1 tardy
- 10 minutes late = 1 absence
- Failure to participate in rehearsal = 1 absence
- Failure to respond to email and/or texts within 48 hours = 1 tardy
- Failure to respond to email and/or texts after 48 hours = 1 absence

On the **5th absence the student may not be permitted to sing in the concerts, nor attend any further rehearsals.** He/She may earn a "D" ONLY IF he/she completes a written, research paper on a composer and/or composition which will be assigned by the conductor. If the student does not complete the assignment by the last class day, the student will receive an "F" in the course. If there are extenuating circumstances, a "C" may be assigned at the discretion of the Conductor.

Students who **fail to attend dress rehearsal will not be permitted to sing in the performance**, and will earn an "F" for the semester. Students who are absent from any performance will earn an "F" for the semester.

Students will not be allowed to drop without the permission of the Conductor which includes a face-to-face scheduled appointment between the student and the Conductor**. NO STUDENTS will be allowed to drop from the course after September 5th.** This is an auditioned ensemble, and selection for the choir is an honor and a privilege.

Scholarship students who earn a "B" will be on probation for the next semester. Those who earn a "C" will lose their scholarship for the next semester, and may have to repay it. Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the conductor within one week of the excessive absences. Failure on the part of the student to communicate in person or in writing with the Conductor will not be an excuse for earning an F in the course. ***The responsibility is on the STUDENT to communicate with the Conductor. This must be done through a face-to-face meeting.***

The Choir is only as good as its least dedicated member. DON'T LET THAT BE YOU!

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Short answer? BE AT ALL REHEARSALS, ON TIME,
WITH MUSIC AND A PENCIL!!
(51% participation, 49% dress rehearsal and performances):

Everyone must attend rehearsals in order for the utmost collaboration and teamwork to occur among the singers. The choir's sound needs to be shaped and molded, and each person's unique voice contributes to the choral tone. Further, rehearsals require many markings and process-oriented activities that can only happen when the singer is present.

Performances are the final product of weeks of rehearsals, and are the only method of assessment for this portion of the grade. Students who fail to attend performances miss the opportunity to complete their own progress and prevent the entire ensemble from performing at its potential. **One cannot earn an 'A' for the semester if he/she does not attend all dress rehearsals and concerts.**

Attendance Policy

Absences are not excused or unexcused. They are simply absences. You are not present. **Students may keep an A** in choir by having only 1 absence. Students are expected to be at every rehearsal since there is only one rehearsal a week.

- Rehearsals: Tardies - NO
- Missing folder or pencil = 1 tardy
- 10 minutes late = 1 absence
- Failure to participate in rehearsal = 1 absence

Students who **fail to attend dress rehearsal will not be permitted to sing in the performance**, and will earn an "F" for the semester. Students who are absent from any performance will earn an "F" for the semester.

Students will not be allowed to drop without the permission of the Conductor which includes a face-to-face scheduled appointment between the student and the Conductor**. NO STUDENTS will be allowed to drop from the course after January 25th.** This is an auditioned ensemble, and selection for the choir is an honor and a privilege.

Scholarship students who earn a "B" will be on probation for the next semester. Those who earn a "C" will lose their scholarship for the next semester, and may have to repay it. Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the conductor within one week of the excessive absences. Failure on the part of the student to communicate in person or in writing with the Conductor will not be an excuse for earning an F in the course. ***The responsibility is on the STUDENT to communicate with the Conductor. This must be done through a face-to-face meeting.***

The Choir is only as good as its least dedicated member. DON'T LET THAT BE YOU!

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

There are no make-ups for being late, missing concerts or rehearsals.

VPA Attendance Policy Exception for Ensembles and Production:

***Absence from **10%** of scheduled ensemble and production meetings/rehearsals will be taken as evidence that a student does not intend to complete the course. If this occurs prior to the 60% point of the semester, the instructor will withdraw the student from the course with an assigned grade of W. The instructor may reinstate the student if satisfied that the student will resume regular attendance and complete the course. In the event of an excused absence (illness or death in the immediate family or attendance of an MCC sponsored event), prior notification of the missed rehearsal is required.

*These policies apply to ALL absences, including illness, school-related functions, family emergencies, etc. Students who know in advance of an absence should inform the instructor **BEFORE** the missed class (although advance notice does not mean an excused absence). It is your responsibility to inform your*

instructor of school sponsored activities before the absence. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis.

Withdrawals after the 60% Point in the Semester: For Tartan Singers, only ONE absence is permitted.
If a student's 10% absences are reached after the official drop date (60% point) the instructor (1) may assign a grade of W provided the student is passing and requests to be withdrawn or (2) will assign a grade of F if the student is failing. In (2) the instructor may assign a grade of W in the case of extenuating circumstances

Illness Policy:
REHEARSALS: Singers have a wide variety of maladies that may prevent them from actually singing during a rehearsal. A student will be expected to participate using his/her ears more than the voice. The student may be asked to serve as a judge and write a written critique of the choir's performance on their musical selections during the rehearsal in which he/she cannot sing. If a student is too ill to do this, then he/she should be home getting care.

PERFORMANCES: If a singer is too ill to perform, he/she, if able, should plan, in consultation with the Conductor, to attend the performance in uniform and sit in the audience. If it is a sudden illness, the student should send an email to Dr. Sneed as soon as possible. (bsneed@mclennan.edu). The time on the email will be recorded. If there is no communication from the singer concerning the absence, the student will earn a "0" for the concert. Any extenuating circumstances should be brought to the attention of the Conductor as soon as possible

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:
The General Conduct Policy in the Highlander Guide states:
"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."

*** Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement**
(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**
(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.

* *You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Mozilla Firefox, Chrome, Microsoft Edge or Safari) to print each link's information.*

McLennan COMMUNITY 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.