

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

---

**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE – INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING  
EXPERIENCE  
PHYS 2389 – SECTION T001**

**LAURA WRIGHT  
APRIL K. ANDREAS**

**NOTE: This is a Blended/Hybrid course.**

## ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

### PHYS 2389 T001

---

#### **Course Description:**

An instructional program designed to integrate on-campus study with practical hands-on work experience in the physical sciences. In conjunction with class seminars, the individual students will set specific goals and objectives in the scientific study of inanimate objects, processes of matter and energy, and associated phenomena. This particular course is focused on developing a research project coordinated with the International Engineering Experience.

#### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

Course requires consent of instructor. This particular section has a prerequisite of a B or better in Engr 2308.

#### **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

In conjunction with faculty, the individual student will set specific goals and objectives in the study of the physical sciences. The student will demonstrate level-appropriate mastery. The student will work with a faculty member or department-approved professional mentor under the supervision of a faculty member. The student will cooperate in planning and devising his or her responsibilities. The student will meet at regular intervals with the supervisor of record.

#### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Professor Laura Wright

MCC E-mail: [lwright@mclennan.edu](mailto:lwright@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8419

Office Location: S 246

Office Hours: Office 246 Monday 10:30-11am,  
3:15-5pm, Tuesday 11am-1pm, Wednesday  
10:30-11am

[https://calendly.com/professor\\_wright/](https://calendly.com/professor_wright/)

Instructor Name: Dr. April K. Andreas

MCC E-mail: [aandreas@mclennan.edu](mailto:aandreas@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8130

Office Location: S 221

Office Hours: Online hours Monday and  
Wednesday 4-6pm and RM 221 Tuesdays 1-  
3pm <https://calendly.com/akandreas>

#### **Required Text & Materials:**

Recommended:

- Additional references may be recommended, depending upon the project.

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

#### **Additional requirements:**

## ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

### PHYS 2389 T001

---

Students must have a reliable computer and internet connection. Students must be able to demonstrate basic computer literacy skills such as keyboarding, sending and receiving email, and using a web browser. Also, a scientific calculator will be allowed for tests.

Requirement for the Overseas Experience portion of the class:

- A passport valid through December 2024
- Approved travel visas (if applicable)
- A smart phone with an international data plan, including about 100 MB per day, and about 100 texts and about 100 minutes of talk total

#### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

Students will learn through independent research, using textbooks and other available resources, along with directed work and discussions with the instructor and the coordinator of the international travel course. Additional methods may be used as opportunities present themselves.

#### **Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

The student will explore and analyze topics within chemistry to meet student-defined goals, objectives, and research interests in coordination with a Physics Department faculty member.

- The student will demonstrate the integration of discipline-specific perspectives with their application in a context outside of the traditional academic classroom.
- The student will demonstrate level-appropriate mastery of applied skills in the designated areas of study.
- The student will develop the ability to work in a faculty-student relationship to set and achieve specific goals in communication, leadership, and/or critical thinking.
- The student and supervising faculty member will define and agree upon plans for communicating and assessing progress and criteria for evaluating the student's work.
- The student will participate in the International Engineering Experience travel course, including all required meetings.

#### **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

# ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

## PHYS 2389 T001

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.

### **Course Outline or Schedule:**

To complete the materials for this course, students must work on modules and complete activities based on the following calendar. **Duolingo work (150 XP) is due every Friday.**

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Friday Info (Bring smart phone to all mtgs)</b>	<b>Due by 11:59 pm Friday</b>
Mon, Jan 8	Mtg #1, 1/12: 1 pm – 4 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation</li> <li>• Set up phones</li> <li>• Travel Guide Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research <u>Conference</u></li> </ul>
Mon, Jan 15	SI 1 Recommended: All about Outlines	
Mon, Jan 22	SI 2 Recap: For Realzies on Outlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature Review <u>Draft</u> &amp; Updated Outline</li> </ul>
Mon, Jan 29	Mtg #2, 2/2: 1 pm – 4 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Names Quiz</li> <li>• GooseChase</li> <li>• Dallas Scavenger Hunt Assignment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature Overview <u>Reviews</u></li> <li>• Research <u>Conference</u></li> </ul>
Mon, Feb 5	SI 3 Recommended: Turning an Outline Into a Paper	
Mon, Feb 12	<b><u>FRIDAY</u></b> Mtg #3, 2/16: 8 am – 10 pm (full day) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dallas Scavenger Hunt (counts as a quiz)</li> </ul>	
Mon, Feb 19	SI 4 Recap: Staying Motivated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lit + Site 1 <u>Draft</u></li> </ul>

## ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

## PHYS 2389 T001

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Friday Info (Bring smart phone to all mtgs)</b>	<b>Due by 11:59 pm Friday</b>
Mon, Feb 26	SI 5 Recommended: Last Minute Panic as Motivator	• Lit + Site 1 <u>Reviews</u>
Mon, Mar 5	No meeting due to spring break	• Lit + Sites 1 – 2 <u>Draft</u> & Updated Outline due by <b>Sunday, 3/10, 11:59 pm</b>
Mon, Mar 11	Mtg #4, 3/15: 1 pm – 4 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take Map Quiz</li> <li>• Take Basic Timeline Quiz</li> <li>• Determine roles for travel</li> </ul> A first look at packing	• Lit + Sites 1 – 2 <u>Reviews</u>
Mon, Mar 18	SI 6 Recap: Spelling, Grammar, and Sources	• Lit + Sites 1 – 3 <u>Draft</u> • Research <u>Conference</u>
Mon, Mar 25	SI 7 Recap: Reviewing Content and Flow	• Lit + Sites 1 – 3 <u>Reviews</u>
Mon, April 1	SI 8 Recommended: What do I do with all these revisions?	• Poster <u>Draft</u>
Mon, April 8	Mtg #5, 4/12: 1 pm – 4 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take Current Events Quiz</li> <li>• Ethics and Behavioral Expectations</li> <li>• Packing and Logistics</li> </ul>	• Poster Approved • Research <u>Conference</u>
Mon, April 15	SI 9 Recommended: Big Boss Meeting Prep	• <b>Scholar Day, Friday, April 19, 9 am to 12 pm</b>
Mon, April 22	Mtg #6, 4/26: 1 pm – 4 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final logistics</li> <li>• Safety &amp; financial considerations</li> <li>• Customs</li> <li>• Public transportation</li> <li>• Phone/App Check</li> </ul>	

The remainder of the schedule will be determined on an individual basis between the student and the instructor.

## ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

### PHYS 2389 T001

---

#### **Course Grading Information:**

The student will be graded based on attendance and participation, minor projects, and the complexity and quality of the research done.

Grade Distribution	
<b>Due prior to travel</b>	<b>85%</b>
- Quizzes	10%
- Research Paper & Edits	45%
- Scholar Day poster	15%
- Supplemental Instruction	5%
- Duolingo Progress	10%
<b>Due during/after travel</b>	<b>15%</b>
- GooseChase Points	10%
- Final Chapter & Revisions	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**A: 90%+    B: 80% – 89%    C: 70% – 79%    D: 60% – 69%    F: 0% – 59%**

**Quizzes:** There will be several quizzes. Details will be provided in class.

**Research:** This grade will be dependent upon meeting the milestones set in the calendar, using the grading scheme provided in the Travel Guide Project description.

**Scholar Day:** Students will be expected to participate in Scholar Day and present a poster.

**Supplemental Instruction:** You will be required to attend Supplemental Instruction. There will be 9 total sessions, and you must attend at least five to get full credit.

**Duolingo Progress:** For safety reasons, it is imperative that students have a “basic knowledge” of the language(s) of the locations we will visit. Details will be provided in class.

*Even if you fall behind, you must still complete all German language study requirements. If you do not have a passing Duolingo average by Friday, April 26, 11 pm, you will not be allowed on the travel portion of the course and will*

*not be eligible for any refunds.* In the case that you are not allowed to travel due to non-completion of language study requirements, your professors will make adjustments to the syllabus that may still allow you to earn credit for the course.

### **During and Post-trip Work**

**GooseChase Points:** We will be using the app GooseChase (available on Apple and Android mobile systems) to keep track of a variety of “scavenger-hunt-like” tasks that will require you to get involved with your surroundings and people you will meet along the way. There are well over 150 points available. Students will be graded out of 100 points, with a max score of 110%. Additional details will be provided in class.

**Final Chapter Revisions:** After travel, students will make appropriate revisions to their engineering travel guide chapters. These revisions will be due soon after we return to the U.S. Details will be provided in class.

### **A Note About Traveling and Intellectual Curiosity**

While not every stop every day is going to be desperately fascinating to you, it is important that you do not impede others’ ability to appreciate the experience by poor attitude and/or behavior. We reserve the right to reduce your final grade in the class for attitudes and behaviors that have a negative effect on the logistics (including being late), the trip participants, or locals. Details will be provided in class.

**Academic Dishonesty.** Any student that is found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion, will receive the zero grade on every test or assignment involved. For repeated violations, a guilty student can be assigned a failing grade in this course and can be recommended for suspension from the McLennan Community College District. Academic dishonesty in any class may result in your dismissal from this course, including the travel portion.

### **Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:**

Late assignments will generally not be accepted. If you are legitimately ill for a significant time before a milestone is due, you must email me and provide a doctor’s note **the first day** you are back in class in order to receive consideration for an extended deadline.

## ACADEMIC COOPERATIVE

### PHYS 2389 T001

---

#### Prior to travel

- Late: To avoid being counted late, you must arrive early to the classroom and be ready to go, prior to when the meeting is scheduled to start
  - Each late arrival will result in a 3-point reduction of your final grade in the course
- Absent: defined as missing more than 15 minutes of a meeting
  - One unexcused absence for any of the face-to-face meetings (as defined by MCC absence policy), you will drop one letter grade
  - Two or more unexcused absences, you will likely be removed from the course and will be ineligible for a refund

#### During travel

- Late: To avoid being counted late, you must arrive early to the meeting point ready to go, so that at the designated meeting time, the group can move to the next location
  - Each late arrival will result in a 3-point reduction of your final grade in the course
- Absent: defined as failing to make a departure, resulting in the missing of an entire activity
  - One unexcused absence, you will drop one letter grade
  - Two or more unexcused absences, you will likely be removed from the course. You will be ineligible for a refund, and will no longer be able to travel with or associate with the group.
  - If you have missed an activity a particular day, you will stay at the hostel for the entirety of that day. Your roommates can bring food, groceries, etc., to you, but you are expected to stay in the hostel and rest so you are in the best of health to join us the next day.
- If you are sick, you have to message us **\*AT LEAST 30 MINUTES BEFORE\*** we are meeting so we have time to see what can be done to help you

If you are dropped before the official drop date, you will receive a grade of W. If you are dropped after the official drop date, you will receive a grade of F, unless there are highly unusual circumstances. If you are dropped from the course, you will not be allowed to participate in the travel portion of the course as a research student.

MCC allows for “excused” absences caused by (1) authorized participation in official College functions, (2) personal illness, (3) an illness or a death in the immediate family, or (4) the



observance of a religious holy day. It is your responsibility to let me know the reason for an absence the day you return to campus and provide sufficient documentation (doctor's note, email from coach, etc.).

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

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 this educational opportunity.

**[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.

**Your professors reserve the right to change any term on this syllabus  
at any time during the semester.**

10/09/2023



## **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](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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 may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

**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](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more 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-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. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://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](mailto: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](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto: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.