

**McLennan**  
C O M M U N I T Y  
**COLLEGE**

WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**AND**  
**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Opera Workshop**

**MUSI 1157\_02**

**Prof. Mandy Morrison, Stage Direction**

**Dr. Sharon Lavery, Music Direction**

**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 on any changes to these guidelines.

**Course Description:**

Presents opera music, libretti, and characterization and motivational staging through the performance of an opera or opera scenes. Recommended of all music vocal majors and minors, but open to all students with consent of instructor.

**Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

*None*

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

*See performance contract*

**Instructor Information:**

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Mandy Morrison  
MCC E-mail: [mmorrison@mclennan.edu](mailto:mmorrison@mclennan.edu)  
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8113  
Office Location: BPAC 110  
Office/Teacher Conference Hours:  
Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 – 2:30,  
Monday/Wednesday 10:00 - noon  
or by appointment

Instructor Name: Dr. Sharon Lavery  
MCC E-mail: [slavery@mclennan.edu](mailto:slavery@mclennan.edu)  
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8285  
Office Location: BPAC 114  
**Office/Teacher Conference Hours:**  
Monday/Wednesday  
Tues/Thurs/Fri or by  
appointment

**Required Text & Materials:**

Opera Workshop studies a new operatic work each fall. The study of this work extends into the spring semester culminating in a performance of the production. The operatic work for 2021 - 2022 will be The Tinker of Tivoli by Michael Jacobsen and Danielle Sinclair. In addition, students have the opportunity to perform at a fundraiser for scholarships in opera in the fall.

*Score Information: Tinker of Tivoli scores will be issued in class. A \$10 deposit will be required to secure a score. If the score is lost, the funds will be used to re-print. If not, the deposit will be returned at the end of the spring semester.*

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

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

*Student rehearsal, performance and presentation.*

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

The study of music, libretto, characterization and staging through the performance of an opera. Performance dates are November 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

*See Course Schedule and Performance Contract for full schedule*

**Fall semester:**

- Weeks 1- 6: Characterization work, coachings, learning and staging of arias, begin chorus work
- Weeks 6-12: Staging of all arias and Act 1 choruses
- Weeks 12-14: Staging of act 2 choruses

**Spring semester:**

- Weeks 1-4: Staging act 2 of production, Review of Act 1
- Weeks 4-6: Extra and extended rehearsals in place; begin running show
- Weeks 6-7: Production mode: dress rehearsals, rehearsals with orchestra, tech calls, performances, strike

**Course Grading Information:**

- 20% Participation
- 70% Weekly Assignments
- 10% Final Exam
  
- Participation Grade:
  - Rehearsal preparation
  - PUNCTUAL rehearsal attendance
  - Contribution to the class/ensemble
  - Responsible and professional behavior
  - Attendance and attention to detail in all tech calls
- Weekly Assignment Grades:
  - Timely Submission
  - Professional approach
  - Accuracy
  - Evident Practice
  - Thorough Completion
  
- Final Exam - TBD
  
- At least one weekly grade will be taken. Grades will be based on the above criteria
- **One unexcused absence** (no show, no prior notice) **will result in the final grade being dropped one letter grade.**
- More than three excused absences will result in a meeting with the production team.
- **Absence from any dress rehearsal or “strike”** (tear-down of set, costumes, clean-up) **will result in the final grade being dropped one letter grade.**

**Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

In addition to the above:

- Attendance is taken at the start of class. You are expected to be early and prepared.

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Please bring a yoga mat or towel, pencil, and music/score to every class/rehearsal.

### Opera Singer Pre-Coaching Checklist

- Highlight every word, pitch, stage direction, etc. that directly relates to your character (confirm and secure cuts)
- Copy sung/spoken text by hand on a piece of paper
- Read text
- Speak text in rhythm, carefully noting score indications, like meter, tempo, expressive marks, dynamics, etc.
- Conduct and speak in rhythm
- At piano, slowly play vocal line
- Intone vocal line
- Sing pitches with text in rhythm

Congratulations, you are ready to meet your coach!

### Coaching etiquette and tips for the singer:

Applied voice teachers build vocal technique. Vocal coaches correct pitches, rhythms, words/diction, phrasing, expression. While some of a coach's suggestions may sound technical in nature, the coach's advice and corrections are secondary to that of the applied teacher. If information seems contradictory, ask questions. It is common for some aspects of vocal performance to be presented in wildly different ways by different teachers and coaches. For the most part, voice teachers and coaches desire the same result, but they may have unique ways of guiding you there. Trust in your innate ability to make music, but be willing to accept constructive criticism and work hard. Approach your vocal studies with a spirit of adventure -- willing to fix mistakes, try new things, and don't forget to bring some of your own ideas to the table!

### [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.

### ***Tinker of Tivoli*** Fall 2021 Rehearsal Schedule

Week 1	Tuesday	August 24 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55
	Thursday	August 28 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55

## Opera Workshop ~ MUSI 1157\_02

Week 2	Tuesday	August 31 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 3	Tuesday	Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	Auditions
	Thursday	Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 4	Tuesday	Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	
Week 5	Tuesday	Sept 21 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 6	Tuesday	Sept 28 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 7	Tuesday	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 8	Tuesday	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 9	Tuesday	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 10	Tuesday	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 11	Monday	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 – 9:30	Dress Rehearsal for La Bella Vita
	Tuesday	Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55 5:00	Call for A Taste of La Bella Vita! @ The Gin at Nolan Creek, Belton
	Thursday	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 12	Tuesday	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 13	Tuesday	Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 14	Tuesday	Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Juries – No Opera	
Week 15	Tuesday	Nov 30 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Wednesday	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:20 – 8:30	Foundation Dinner
	Thursday	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	No Rehearsal	Highlander Holiday
Finals Week	Thursday	Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	Final Exam (Tentative)

**Tinker of Tivoli** Spring 2022 Rehearsal Schedule - **TENTATIVE**

^All rehearsals in MTA, unless otherwise noted

Week 1	Tuesday	Jan 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 13 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 2	Tuesday	Jan 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 20 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 3	Tuesday	Jan 25 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 27 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 4	Tuesday	Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 5	Tuesday	Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 10 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 6	Tuesday	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 20 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 7	Tuesday	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 17 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 8	Tuesday	Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 24 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	(Little Shop – Musical: 2/24 – 2/26)
Week 9	Tuesday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	

SPRING BREAK March 6 – 12 Load In (Come to campus to help build the set!)

Week 9	Monday	March 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	
	Tuesday	March 15 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC	
	Thursday	March 17 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC	
	Friday	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	
Week 10	Monday	March 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 – 10:00	^BPAC (Sitz)	
	Tuesday	March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC	
	Thursday	March 24 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC	
	Friday	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	
	Saturday	March 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 4:00	Tech Rehearsal	
	Sunday	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	OFF		
Week 11	Monday	March 28 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	DRESS w/ Orchestra
	Tuesday	March 29 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	DRESS w/ Piano
	Wednesday	March 30 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	DRESS w/ Piano
	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>1:00 Performance w/ Piano</b>		
			6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC	DRESS w/ Orchestra
	<b>Friday</b>	<b>April 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>1:00 Performance w/ Piano</b>		
		<b>7:30 Performance w/ Orchestra</b>			
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>7:30 Performance w/ Orchestra</b>			

# MCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE – OPERA

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Opera Workshop, McLennan Opera | MUSI 1157\_01 | **PERFORMANCE CONTRACT**

**August 24, 2021**

Opera Workshop Contract  
McLennan Community College  
1400 College Dr.  
Waco, TX 76708

Dates: See attached schedule

Compensation: Opera Workshop Credit and Multiple Performance Experiences with piano & orchestra

Signatures below confirm that the parties have read and approve each and all terms and conditions from all pages attached.

Performer: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructors:

Mrs. Mandy Morrison  
[mmorrison@mclennan.edu](mailto:mmorrison@mclennan.edu)  
254-299-8113  
BPAC 110

Dr. Sharon Lavery  
[slavery@mclennan.edu](mailto:slavery@mclennan.edu)  
254-299-8285  
BPAC 114

1. The performer, in signing this contract, acknowledges his/her/their responsibility for the following rehearsal and performance schedule.
2. The performer can expect that the rehearsal schedule will not change, if at all possible, nor be extended.
3. The performer can expect to be guided through the learning process with kindness and professionalism.
4. The performer can expect to perform with quality accompaniment provided by piano and/or full orchestra.
5. The performer may not cancel this contract except for proven inability to perform due to sickness, accident, acts of war, acts of God or other legitimate causes beyond their control.
  - a. The performer is expected to arrange all transportation to and from rehearsal and performance.
  - b. The performer is expected to provide a doctor's note in the case of legitimate sickness and may be asked to observe rehearsal from a distance or via Zoom.
  - c. Immediate contact should be made with instructor(s) in the case of instances listed above.
  - d. The performer is expected to attend all contractual obligations according to the dates and times outlined in the rehearsal and performance schedule.
  - e. The performer agrees to arrive early to class, unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor(s).
6. The performer shall be responsible for all equipment required for rehearsal and performance including: score, pencil, props, set pieces and costume pieces. All costume pieces shall remain hung when not being worn.
7. The inability to meet requirements as outlined will result in the lowering of the performer's grade by one letter and the possible evaluation of the performer's ability to perform their role.
8. Any and all conditions are to be made prior to signing this agreement and shall be stated herein. This contract and the terms and conditions contained herein may be enforced by the instructor(s) and performer.
9. It is agreed that this contract shall not be binding unless signed by both parties.
- 10. Rehearsal conflicts will be in writing (on the back) and agreed upon by all parties.**

Performer (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Signatures

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# McLennan

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## ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

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

### **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.

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

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.



**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](mailto: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.

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

**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. 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/](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.

**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.