

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Applied Voice

MUAP - 1281 - 02

Edgar Sierra

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

.AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION Spring 2020

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Course Description:

Individual Instruction in voice or brass, percussion, woodwind, stringed, or keyboard. Available to non-majors as well as music majors who wish to study a secondary applied emphasis. Involves one weekly private lesson, and weekly Studio Class attendance. MUAP 1281 (60 min lesson) Students are **required** to practice 5 hours per week, minimum. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Co-requisite: MUEN 1141 or MUSI 1158.

Approval of Instructor.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

1. A method to record lessons to help you remember exercises, technique tips e.g. cell phone voice recorder to allow you to listen to the lesson and hear your own vocal progress.
2. Pencils to mark music scores.
3. Two copies of music scores, one unmarked.
4. A 3-ring notebook to keep music scores, notes, and hand-outs. This binder will be collected at the final lesson of the semester.
5. Any music scores you have been required to purchase.
6. The course curriculum for MUAP 1281 satisfies Student Learning Outcomes 4, 6, 7: 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.
7. **Reading** at the college level means the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials -- books, articles, and documents. A core curriculum should offer students the opportunity to master both general methods of analyzing printed materials and specific methods for analyzing the subject matter of individual disciplines.
8. **Critical thinking** embraces methods for applying both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to subject matter in order to evaluate arguments and to construct alternative strategies. Problem solving is one of the applications of critical thinking, used to address an identified task. Included under **critical thinking skills development** is the requirement for Students to:
 - 8.1 Research song and aria backgrounds, English translations in pencil into their own scores. "Research" Documents are available on D2L|Brightspace under "Content". Correct completion and on-time submission count toward the final grade.
9. Students are required to study and memorize notes, rhythms, words of songs, correct pronunciation, and to perform all assigned repertoire from memory on specified memorization test dates for the Instructor.
10. Songs must be performed for the Instructor from memory **TWO weeks BEFORE performances** in Studio Class, Student Recitals, Masterclasses*, and Voice Juries (final exams).
11. "Exit Recitals" require a "Recital Hearing" 4-5 weeks prior to the "Exit Recital" date arranged in consultation with Student, Instructor, and Accompanist. Unless pre-authorization has been

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provided for an approved accommodation, failure to memorize songs by the required deadline will result in the *final* grade being lowered by ONE full letter grade.

12. Students are required to inform the Instructor of all on and off-campus performances.
13. Students are required to dress professionally with decorum and elegance for all performances including: Recitals, Studio Class, Final Exams/Voice Juries, and obtain approval on attire choices from the Instructor before performances.
14. *Since lessons are arranged on an individual basis, the schedule may be subject to change. Students are required to “opt in” under “Notifications” on D2L|Brightspace AND check MCC emails regularly to receive timely updates and announcements for this class.*
Thank you.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Edgar Sierra

MCC E-mail: ersierra@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8284

Office Location: BPAC 116

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: By Appointment

Required Text & Materials:

Each Student will be asked to purchase further anthologies suiting their individual needs during the course of the semester in consultation with the Instructor such as (but not limited to) the *The First Book of Soprano Solos* series, *Parts I, II & III*. Some of the suggested anthologies and songs are available through the MCC Bookstore, legal online downloads, libraries, and through local merchants or catalog sales.

It is important for students to begin building their own library. NATS rules require originals for all Student Auditions competitions. Please ensure that you have the appropriate Copyright Permission for the songs you perform for voice juries as well as off-campus performances.

Title: *28 Italian Songs and Arias of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries: Based on Editions by Alessandro Parisotti (book and digital audio)*

Editor: Richard Walters

Editions: 2016 (2008 and 2010 also allowed)

Publisher: Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

Medium Voice ISBN 1423492463

Low Voice ISBN 063408299X

High Voice ISBN 1423492447

Medium-high Voice ISBN 0634082957

Title: *The First Book of Soprano Solos Complete, Parts I, II & III*

Editor: Joan Frey Boytim

Edition: 2013

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

ISBN-10: 1480333212

Title: *The First Book of Mezzo-soprano Solos Complete, Parts I, II & III*

Editor: Joan Frey Boytim

Edition 2013

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

ISBN-13: 9781480333222

Title: *The First Book of Tenor Solos Complete, Parts I, II & III*

Editor: Joan Frey Boytim

Edition 2013

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

ISBN-10: 1480333239

Title: *The First Book of Baritone Solos Complete, Parts I, II & III*

Editor: Joan Frey Boytim

Edition 2013

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

ISBN-10: 1480333247

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

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, we encourage you to contact a

success coach by calling (254) 299-8226. Students can visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to meet with a success coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) is open 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, without an appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

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 contacted/notified through 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.

* [Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)
(www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

One-on-one weekly session arranged with instructor: Lab exercises (vocalises), student projects (independent learning/practice of semester repertoire), class discussions (weekly studio class – Thursdays from 4-5pm in MTA 106), masterclasses and competitions*, student performances (studio class, student recitals, and final voice jury). **Students are selected at instructor's discretion with Students' permission.*

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

MUAP 1281 satisfies the Student Learning Outcome: *Engage in the creative process and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands of the musical artist.*

This class includes a Group Class (Studio Class: Thursdays from 4-5pm) and private “one-on-one” study arranged individually with Instructor. Study of the singing voice will emphasize:

- The proper techniques of breathing, posture, projection, tone quality and interpretation for the purpose of solo singing.
- The study of various types of Western Classical vocal repertoire using correct notes, rhythms, dynamics, pronunciation, and interpretation for live performances.

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- Memorization and performance of all repertoire i.e. 4-5 songs (final amount of repertoire is at the Instructor's discretion) by required memorization deadlines. Failure to fulfill this requirement will result in grades being lowered by ONE full letter grade.
- Students performing **Opera or Musical Theater Roles** receive credit toward one repertoire item in both the Fall and Spring. Please discuss this with your Instructor.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Weeks 1-3:

- Assignments of vocal exercises.
- Instruction on daily practice habits/goals i.e.: 3.5 hr minimum practice time for 30 min lessons
- One half of semester's repertoire must be assigned i.e. 2-3 songs
- Determine which competitions and auditions the Student is eligible for.
- Create a timeline/plan for completion.

Week 4:

- Continuation of Weeks 1-3.
- Test on "correct practice habits". First exam song learned, memorized, and performed for instructor with intention.

Weeks 5-6:

- Continuation of Weeks 1-3.
- Student repertoire assignments should be complete (4-5 songs and arias).
- Students are required to submit copies of all scores to assigned accompanists.

Week 6-7:

- Continuation of Weeks 1-3.
- Second exam song learned, memorized, and performed for instructor.

Weeks 8-10:

- Continuation of Weeks 1-3.
- Third and Fourth exam song learned.

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Weeks 10-13:

Preparation for final Exam (Jury).

- Student must complete one Studio Class performance.
- Fifth exam song learned.

Week 13-14:

- Memorization test for all students' final exam repertoire.
- Songs must be performed with intention.
- Students may be quizzed on the English meanings of songs, and other information found in "Research" documents.
- Students must have performed in a Student Recital by TBD.

Final Voice Juries are TBA

Course Grading Information:

Each lesson is graded on:

- Level of preparation
- Completion of assignments
- Punctuality
- Attitude
- Attendance and promptness

Studio Class:

- Weekly Studio Class attendance and participation is required: Thursdays 4:00-5:00 pm in MTA 106.
- Students are required to perform ONCE in Studio Class per semester. Failure to do so will result in grades being lowered by ONE letter grade.
- Performing a different song in a Student Recital and Studio Class is required.

Student Recitals:

- Students are required to perform ONCE in a Student Recital per semester. Failure to do so will result in grades being lowered by ONE letter grade. Performing a different song in a Student Recital and Studio Class is required.

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Recital Credit:

- Attendance at **Fifteen** MCC and/or Baylor Musical Events is required for Music Majors. This includes all MCC Student Recitals and Faculty Recitals.
- Credit is transferrable to four year institutions upon providing Instructor with programs, Student number, and Full name.

Practice Logs:

- Found under “Content” on D2L|Brightspace.
- Must be completed correctly and shown to the Instructor at the beginning of class on a weekly basis.
- Failure to complete correctly and submit them on time will result in *final* grades being lowered by ONE letter grade.

Final Grade Calculations:

- Weekly Lessons = 15%
- Research logs = 10%
- Studio Class Attendance and Performance Grade = 25%
- Student Recital Attendance and Performance Grade = 25%
- Attendance at 15 MCC and Baylor Music Events* = transferable credit
- Voice Jury (Final Exam) = 25%
- **Total: 100%**

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

- Attendance and promptness to all lessons is mandatory.
- A 10 min. tardy for a 30 min. lesson = a missed lesson = 0% grade.
- A 15 min. tardy for a 60 min. lesson = a missed lesson = 0% grade.
- “No call, no show” is an unexcused absence = 0% grade. **No make ups will be given.**
- **Twenty-four hour written notice** is required for excused absences e.g. MCC related trips etc.
- Excused absences may be made up. **However:**
- **Only TWO make up lessons are allowed per semester. No further makeups will be given unless teacher absences are involved.**
- Lessons missed due to Instructor absences will be made up.
- Make up lessons missed by Students, will **not** be rescheduled.
- TWO 10-15min. sessions of daily concentrated vocal practice are required and must be kept by Students.

- All performances including Studio Class, Student Recitals, Masterclasses, and Voice Juries, must be from memory AND with intention. Failure to meet this requirement will result in *final* grades being lowered by a full letter grade.

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 the education opportunity. In studying and teaching voice, one needs to be aware that the body is the musical instrument. There is a certain amount of touching that must occur in the lesson. The teacher may ask permission to touch the student in the mid torso area, neck, face, arms. In turn, the student may be asked to touch the teacher as he/she demonstrates a technique. It is important to remember that this is part of the professional process of teaching/learning about the singing voice. While students may record lessons, rehearsals and performances, they may not post activities without obtaining the express permission of instructors and accompanists.

* **[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](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

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. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit 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

* **[Click Here for more information about Title IX](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

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 (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) 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.

* *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.*