

# McLennan C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

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## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

## **INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Opera Workshop**

**MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03**

**Dr. Sharon Lavery, Prof. Mandy Morrison, Prof. Gail Wade**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week, Blended/Hybrid course**

### **COVID 19 Notice:**

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals. We are also concerned for your safety. We are working through COVID-19 guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. This will include smaller class sizes to manage social distancing and proper cleaning techniques. You will have the advantage of a physical classroom experience but may also need to work part of the time online as we adjust to limited classroom capacity. This will also allow us the flexibility to move online if so directed by federal, state and/or local COVID 19 guidelines. Faculty and staff are preparing now to ensure that you have the best experience in the midst of these uncertain times.

## OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

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### **Course Description:**

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

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

None

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

The course curriculum for MUSI 1157 satisfies the student learning outcome: *Engage in the creative process and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands of the musical artist.*

Opera Workshop studies a new operatic work each fall. The study of the work extends into the spring semester, culminating in a performance of the production. The operatic work for 2020-2021 will be The Old Maid and the Thief, by Gioncarlo Menotti.

### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Mandy Morrison  
MCC Email: [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 on zoom

Instructor Name: Dr. Sharon Lavery  
MCC Email: [srlavery@mclennan.edu](mailto:srlavery@mclennan.edu)  
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8285  
Office Location: BPAC 114  
Office/Teacher Conference Hours:  
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:30 – 10:30 or  
by appointment

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

Title: The Old Maid and the Thief  
Author: Gioncarlo Menotti  
Publisher: Alfred Publishing Company, Inc.  
ISBN: 0-7692-4591-9

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

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

Student performance and presentation.

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

The study of music, libretto, characterization and staging through the performance of an opera.

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## OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

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

#### **Fall Semester:**

**Weeks 1-6:** Characterization work, coachings, learning and staging of arias

**Weeks 6-12:** Staging of at least 1/3 of the opera

**Weeks 12-14:** Staging of at least 1/3 of opera

Review of all music, review of staging, possible performance for  
McLennan Foundation

#### **Spring Semester:**

**Weeks 1-4:** Staging of at final 1/3 of opera

**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

\*\*\*See the last page for schedule and performance contract.

### **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 to recordings
  - Accuracy
  - Evident Practice
  
- 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.**

## OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

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- More than three excused absences will result in a meeting with the production team.
  - **Absence from “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:**

Opera Singer 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 Academic Integrity Statement](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)  
([www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity))

## OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

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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)**

**(<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 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.*

# OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

## *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Spring 2021 Rehearsal Schedule - **TENTATIVE**

^All rehearsals in MTA, unless otherwise noted

Week 1	Tuesday	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 2	Tuesday	Jan 19 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 21 <sup>rd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 3	Tuesday	Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 4	Tuesday	Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 5	Tuesday	Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 6	Tuesday	Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
Week 7	Tuesday	Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	
	Thursday	Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 3:55	(Musical/Gala)
Week 8	Monday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 – 9:00	^BPAC
	Tuesday	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	
	Thursday	March 4 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC
	Friday	March 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 9:00	^BPAC
SPRING BREAK				
Week 9	Monday	March 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 9:00	^BPAC – Orchestra (7 – 9 pm)
	Tuesday	March 16 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC
	Thursday	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 – 5:00	^BPAC
	Friday	March 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC – Orchestra (7 – 9pm)
	Saturday	March 20 <sup>th</sup>	All Day – Tech Rehearsal (ALL SINGERS REQUIRED)	
	Sunday	March 21 <sup>st</sup>	ALL Day – Work Crew (ALL SINGERS REQUIRED)	
Week 10	Monday	March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC – Dress Rehearsal
	Tuesday	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC – Dress Rehearsal
	Wednesday	March 24 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 10:00	^BPAC – Dress Rehearsal
	Thursday	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Show
	Friday	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Show
	Saturday	March 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Show
	Sunday	March 29 <sup>th</sup>	2:30	Matinee

# OPERA WORKSHOP

MUSI 1157 01, 02, 03

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## MCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Your Name | MUSI 1157\_01 | **PERFORMANCE CONTRACT**

**January 11, 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 possible, nor be extended.
3. 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.
  - c. Immediate contact should be made with instructor(s) in the case of instances listed above.
4. The performer shall be responsible for all equipment required for rehearsal and performance including: score, pencil, props, and costume pieces.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. It is agreed that this contract shall not be binding unless signed by both parties.
8. **Rehearsal conflicts will be in writing (on the back) and agreed upon by all parties.**

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

Instructor Signatures:

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Mrs. Mandy Morrison

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Dr. Sharon Lavery

# McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

# COLLEGE

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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. Students can 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 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](https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html)  
(<https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html>)

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.



**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 her/his 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.

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward the 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 become lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

**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](http://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

\* [Click Here for more information about Title IX](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix)  
([www.mclennan.edu/titleix](http://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](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) 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. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting the following website: <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

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 Mozilla Firefox, Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Safari) to print each link's information.*