



**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

Opera Workshop and Study Trip to NYC

MUSI 1157_95

Prof. Mandy Morrison, Stage Direction and Study Trip Instructor

NOTE: This is a 8-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:

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.

Study Trip: Presents a unique opportunity for students to study and experience live opera and music theatre performances in New York City. Viewing professional performances at a high level increases students' interest, knowledge and performing abilities.

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

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8113

Office Location: BPAC 110

Office/Teacher Conference Hours:

Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 – 2:30,

Monday/Wednesday

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 March 31st – April 2nd.

Course Outline or Schedule:

See Course Schedule and Performance Contract for full schedule

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 |
| Week 8: | |

Course Grading Information:

- 50% Pre-Trip Assignment
- 50% Performance

- Participation Grade:	- Weekly Assignment Grades:
Rehearsal preparation	Timely Submission
PUNCTUAL rehearsal attendance	Professional approach
Contribution to the class/ensemble	Accuracy
Responsible and professional behavior	Evident Practice
Attendance and attention to detail in all tech calls	Thorough Completion

- Final Exam - Performances
- 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, handheld mirror, and music/score to every class/rehearsal.

Opera Singer Pre-Coaching Checklist

Opera Workshop ~ MUSI 1157_95

- ☐ 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.

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

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.