

VALENCIA COLLEGE

HUM 1020 27300

Intro To Humanities

Spring 2025 Credit Courses

Professor Information



Maura Gleeson

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Office Location: OC Bldg. 2, Room 223

Student Engagement Hours: I set aside 10 hours every week for student engagement, and they are spread out between Monday-Friday to fit a range of students' schedules. Please check your Canvas homepage for my Spring 2025 hours. If there are any changes to this schedule, I will notify students and provide additional hours.

Course Information

Credit Hours: 3

Class Meeting Times: Mon 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM OC-001104

Course Description: INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES In this course, students will learn about the creative ideas and accomplishments of various cultures in various fields of humanities that may include art, architecture, drama, history, music, literature, philosophy, and religion. The course will include cultural expressions from the western canon and may also include expressions from around the globe.

Course Outcomes

· Students will demonstrate knowledge of arts and ideas and synthesize information from various sources. · Students will analyze and interpret selected expressions of arts and ideas. · Students will compare and contrast selected expressions of arts and ideas. · Students will identify contextual influences on the development of interdisciplinary arts and ideas.

Required Materials

No textbook required - OER only.

OER: OER: All instructional materials are free, open access, and located in your Canvas modules.

Assessments

Coursework

Your coursework consists of course content, discussions, reflections, quizzes, primary source analyses and a final presentation. An “A” in the course can be achieved with 5-7 hours per week of focused engagement with your coursework. For a list of the weekly assignments, see the Course Calendar/Schedule of Assignments on Canvas.

- **Course Content and Discussion:** Our course is designed as a flipped classroom, which means that you will complete the course content (video lectures and assigned reading) in advance of our in-person discussion meetings. Meeting plans and instructions to prepare will be available in your Canvas modules. In-person discussions are designed to help you master the content, facilitate exchange, and explore artworks in detail. Activities that take place in Discussion meetings include debates, short writing activities, and small-group discussions. Our

meetings encourage you to think critically about the course material, and to increase your acuity in analyzing and synthesizing information from diverse sources.

- **Quizzes:** You will take a weekly quiz on Canvas that focuses on key ideas and vocabulary explored in the Modules and Discussion. The quizzes will consist of multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. The quizzes are not timed, and you can take them up to three times. I will retain your highest grade.
- **Reflections:** The semester is divided into three units. At the end of each unit, you will complete a "Reflection" assignment that asks you to examine larger topics and themes in the course and self-assess your learning. The "Unit Overview" and weekly "Study Materials" pages uploaded to Canvas will help you prepare for these reflections. Prior to the deadline, we will review the expectations and grading rubric for this assignment.
- **Primary Source Analyses:** Throughout the term, you will complete two Primary Source Analysis assignments, in which you will select a primary source from a list (provided on Canvas) that relates to the regions and time periods we explore in class. Primary sources include artworks, music compositions, passages from literature, poems, and historical texts. These short written assignments are designed to strengthen your ability to analyze material culture through a historical lens. Prior to the deadline, we will review sample questions, expectations, and the grading rubric for this assignment.
- **Cultural Experience Project:** Throughout the semester, there will be several opportunities for you to participate in cultural experiences on campus and around the Orlando area. These events range from academic lectures, music and theatrical performances, public art, and exhibitions. You will be asked to attend one cultural event of your choosing, and at the end of the course, your final project will be to record a video presentation that explains the event and how it connects to our in-class exploration of cultural history. The presentation will address the key question we will explore throughout the semester: *What is culture and why do we study it?* Prior to the deadline, we will complete two assignments that will help you to outline your presentation. For more information, please review the assignment instructions uploaded to Canvas.

Grades and Grading Scale

- Discussions: 30%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Primary Source Analyses: 20%
- Unit Reflections: 15%
- Cultural Experience Project: 15%

Assessment grades are determined by a rubric that is attached to that assignment in our Canvas classroom. I will review each rubric with you in advance of each assignment. I provide ample feedback on all written assessments in the course.

Students may use my comments to revise and resubmit any written work for a higher grade. The deadline to submit any revisions will be Tuesday, April 15th at 11:59PM.

Late Work, Revisions, Make Up Work, and Deadlines

While I do send out reminders of forthcoming deadlines, students are responsible for knowing the due dates for each assignment! Deadlines are outlined on the Course Calendar/Schedule of Assignments page of your Orientation Module in Canvas. Extensions on assignments may be granted, but only in

extreme circumstances and determined on a case-by-case basis by the professor. Documentation may be required.

Your course grades will be updated weekly on Canvas. Missing assignments are marked with a '0' grade. Late submissions for missing assignments are welcome - but they will not be accepted after we have moved on from that particular unit. Revised written assignments may be submitted after the Unit ends, but missing work will not be accepted. Thursday, April 17th at 11:59PM is the final deadline to turn in any revised work for the term. Please see the definitions of missing vs. revised assignments below:

- **Revised assignment:** A submission that was turned in on time, but the student did not meet the "Complete" criteria for all parts of the grading rubric. Student can use feedback to revise & resubmit any time in the semester until Thursday, April 17th at 11:59PM.
- **Missing assignment:** A submission that was not turned in by its deadline. A 0-grade is added as a placeholder until end of the Unit it was assigned in. If the assignment is not submitted by the end of that unit, the 0 becomes a permanent score. Student can submit the assignment only through the end of the Unit.

Life sometimes gets in the way of things, and I am happy to work with you based on your situation - but timely communication is necessary for me to work with you on this. If, for any reason, you believe you will miss an assignment deadline, please notify me in advance by email. If no notification is received, then the assignment will be counted as missing.

Attendance

This class requires your active participation in our weekly discussion meetings as well as in our digital Canvas classroom. Record of your class attendance will be updated in our Canvas classroom and reflected in your grade. Attendance in the first week of class is mandatory, and students are granted one "free" (excused) absences during the semester. More than this will affect your grade as well as your experience with the course material.

If you are unable to attend class, please let me know in advance by email and make time to catch up with the material outside of class. Make-up work is only granted in extreme circumstances (such as prolonged illness or bereavement), but only on a case-by-case basis as decided with the professor. Documentation may be required.

Academic Honesty

All work submitted to this course must be in your own words. Evidence of academic dishonesty in any class work will earn you an immediate zero on that assignment until we are able to discuss it. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, acts of plagiarism, cheating, use of AI-generated answers or imagery, misrepresentation of experience or ability, allowing unauthorized access to your course

materials, and colluding to help another student violate the policy. These violations are described in full [on these pages of Valencia's Student Handbook](#).

The following steps will be taken if the Academic Integrity policy is violated on students' assignments:

- Violation #1: Students will earn a 0 on their assignment with an explanation of why their work is an example of academic dishonesty. Students will have the chance to revise and resubmit the assignment within a timeframe set by your Professor. Explanation of violations will be provided in writing and maintained in the Professor's records.
- Violation #2: Students will earn a 0 on their assignment and will not be offered the chance to make up the points.
- Violation #3: Students will earn a 0 on their assignment and a report will be submitted to Valencia College's Academic Affairs office. Student and Professor will meet to discuss next steps.

Student Code of Conduct

Our discussions, both in person and on Canvas, take place in a professional learning space. As your Professor, I will ensure for my students a civil and safe environment conducive to learning and inquiry. I encourage you all to maintain an open mind as you thoughtfully communicate your ideas. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, in accordance with the [Valencia College Student Code of Conduct](#). I reserve the right to request removal of a student who displays inappropriate or disruptive behavior in the Canvas and/or physical classroom.

Disclaimer Statement

Changes to this syllabus, schedule, and/or policy may be made at any time during the course per instructor discretion. These changes will be reasonable and made in the best interest of student learning. Students will be notified of any changes in class meetings, through Announcements, and/or via the Canvas Inbox conversations tool. The Course Calendar/Schedule of Assignments will also be updated. Students with any concerns about any changes should discuss it with the instructor as soon as possible.