

VALENCIA COLLEGE

HUM 2223: Medieval Humanities

SPRING 2024

“Learn everything; you will see afterwards that nothing is superfluous.”

-Hugh of St. Victor (12th-century)

Instructor: Dr. George Brooks

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Office & Hours: 1-115A ~ Office: T&R 1-2; Email (daily except Sat.); Zoom appointments by request

Course Description: (From Valencia catalog): *Integrated examination of dominant ideas in Western culture expressed in art, literature, music, philosophy and religion. Covers period from late Roman Empire through Middle Ages, emphasizing development and historical influence of Christianity. Gordon Rule course which requires demonstration of college level writing. Minimum grade of C required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirement.*

This course is a survey of the Western Humanities during the early Christian era, from the origins of the Bible through the thousand years of the Middle Ages. Of particular interest in this course will be the examination of how the “Age of Faith” shaped the Western World’s view of God, nature and humankind and how that view is expressed in the arts and ideas of the medieval era. The Humanities uses an interdisciplinary approach to better comprehend the intellectual and cultural history of civilization. We will examine literature, philosophy, religion, politics, art, architecture, music, science and technology and seek also to understand the *ideas* that interpenetrate the disciplines, uniting and inspiring the endeavors of the mind.

Course Prerequisites: ENC 1101 or 1101H (with a grade of “C” or better)

Required Texts: *Course Reader (provided free this semester!—all else is OER)*

Suggested Texts: *The Bible (all Bible readings are provided, but feel free to pull out your own and follow along—it is interesting to compare translations)*
The Well-Tempered Sentence, by Karen Elizabeth Gordon (optional, e-shop)
[This is a Gordon Rule class that requires the demonstration of competent, college-level writing skills. If you are still struggling with the basics of punctuation, grammar and sentence construction, a book like this is how you teach yourself those skills]

Grading: Students will be evaluated in the following manner

- Two major exams: essay and short answer responses—25% each for 50%.
- About a dozen short quizzes and little homework assignments—30%
- Final research assisted paper/project for 20%.

All work in the course, and the final grade, will be assessed according to the following scale:

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 60-79 D: 50-59 F: 0-49

Note the good news here! 

Attendance/Withdrawal Policy: Many studies have shown that college success is directly related to class attendance. As college students, you are expected to value your education and make every effort to attend all classes. Attendance is taken daily and students who withdraw or fail the course will have their last day of attendance reported, which can have consequences for financial aid. Attendance records are kept for three years and subject to audit by any official agency that requests them. I do not penalize students for absences, as I don't need to: excessive absences invariably result in diminished classroom performance and students will accept the consequences of their decisions. Please do not call or email me to tell me you will be absent—I am not here to monitor that, nor do you need to explain your personal circumstances to me. In short, I will treat you as adults and assume you have a very good reason for the rare occasion that you miss a class. However, do not come to me the next class, or email me later, and ask “what did I miss?” I am paid to be your professor, not your personal secretary. Should you miss class, the correct procedure is to contact a classmate *before* you return and have them teach you what you missed. Then, if you have a *specific question*, I will be delighted to discuss it. Students should be aware of the withdrawal deadline and withdraw themselves if you cannot complete the course. For severe medical conditions that result in excessive absences, consult the Dean of Students concerning Valencia's medical withdrawal policy. International students and students receiving financial aid should be aware of how a “W” will affect their status.

Make-up Policies: Make-up tests are only given in the event of a documented illness or family emergency. All make-up tests must be made up within one week after the original test date. Assessment quizzes related to readings and videos are given frequently through the Canvas portal which must be completed before the class for which it is assigned. No make-up quizzes will be given; however, you may drop your lowest quiz grade, so do not fret if you miss or bomb one. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class. Do not come to class late because your homework is not done—it will still be late and you will have missed important material. If a student is absent, it is that student's responsibility to give any late homework to the instructor at the beginning of the next class. Late homework will be accepted the next class period for half credit but not beyond that. **NB: All writing assignments must be completed in order to qualify for a passing grade in a Gordon Rule class—even if they are really late, ALL ESSAYS MUST BE SUBMITTED.** The Final Exam is controlled by special rules. Students should check the course calendar through ATLAS to determine the date of the final exam in all of their classes and make post-semester plans accordingly. Final exams are given according to that schedule—they cannot be taken early to accommodate your vacation plans.

~ ALL ESSAYS MUST BE TURNED IN AND RECEIVE A GRADE TO FULFILL THE GORDON RULE ~

Classroom Behavior: Valencia College is dedicated to promoting honorable personal and social conduct, and the cultivation of professionalism. By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes responsibility for knowing and abiding by the rules articulated in the Student Code of Conduct (6Hx28:10-03). Students who engage in activities that are disruptive to the learning environment will be sent to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. The following list, though not exhaustive, includes things which are disruptive to the learning environment: **preparing homework for other courses during class, engaging in private conversations with classmates while class is in session, excessive tardiness, leaving and re-entering the classroom while the class is in session.** Students must deactivate all cellular telephones and noise-making electronics before entering the classroom.

~ IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO TEXT-MESSAGE DURING CLASS ~

Academic honesty: All students are expected to be in complete compliance with the college policy on academic honesty as set forth in the college catalog and the student handbook. Cheating on an exam or any degree of plagiarism is zealously punished.

Copyrighted Material: All materials provided online are copyrighted and made available for educational purposes only. Students may not reproduce copyrighted material without permission from the appropriate publisher or author.

Food/Housing Insecurity: Students who have difficulty accessing sufficient food or who lack a safe and stable place to live and believe this may affect his or her performance in the course is urged to meet with a Counselor in the Advising Center for information about resources that may be available from the college or community. Be aware that Valencia East Campus has a food pantry located in the Learning Resource Center (fancy name for the library) which is in building 4, room 134. **VCentials** (formerly *Pooky's Pantry*) is a free resource for Valencia students and offers non-perishable food items, hygiene items, socks, outside resource information, and local housing information. Students must have a Valencia photo ID which is scanned upon entry and may select up to six items per day.

Emergencies related to Covid-19 Pandemic or other Illnesses: If you become unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with me as soon as possible in order to create a plan to complete any missed assignments so that your learning can progress in your course. In the case of a prolonged absence, please communicate with me as soon as possible in order to create a plan for the best course of action.

Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a notification from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the instructor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. The OSD determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities. The East Campus Office is located in Building 5, Room 216.

The instructor reserves the right to amend or alter the course calendar at any time during the semester. It is the student's responsibility to stay updated on changes announced in class or through CANVAS.



Valencia Policy on Academic Dishonesty: 6Hx28:10-16

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the students' individual thoughts, research, and self-expression. Whenever a student uses ideas, wording, or organization from another source, the source shall be appropriately acknowledged.

Students shall take special notice that the assignment of course grades is the responsibility of the students' individual professor. When the professor has reason to believe that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred, and before sanctions are imposed, the student shall be given informal notice and an opportunity to be heard by the professor. Any student determined by the professor to have been guilty of engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be liable to a range of academic penalties as determined by the professor which may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project; a reduction in the course grade; or a grade of "F" in the course. At the option of the professor, the campus provost may be furnished with written notification of the occurrence and the action taken. If such written notice is given, a copy shall be provided to the student.

Students guilty of engaging in a gross or flagrant act of academic dishonesty or repeated instances of academic dishonesty shall also be subject to administrative and/or disciplinary penalties which may include warning, probation, suspension and/or expulsion from the College.

Valencia Student Code of Conduct: 6Hx28:10-03

Classroom Behavior:

Valencia College is dedicated to promoting honorable personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes the responsibility for knowing and abiding by the rules articulated in the Student Code of Conduct (6Hx28:10-03). The instructor reserves the right to refer students who engage in activities that are disruptive to the learning environment to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. The following list, though not exhaustive, includes things which are disruptive to the learning environment:

Use of any electronic devices including but not restricted to: Cell phones, iPods, and laptop computers (documentation from OSD will be taken into consideration); Preparing homework for other courses during class; Engaging in private conversations with classmates while class is in session; Excessive tardiness; Leaving and re-entering the classroom while the class is in session.

In addition, Valencia College strives to provide a drug-free learning environment for all those involved in the academic experience. Our policy is as follows:

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Valencia College will take such steps as are necessary in order to adopt and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by Valencia College students or employees on college premises or as part of any college activity.

Virtual Support Services and Resources

Valencia College is concerned about our students and community members during the COVID-19 situation. Here are some of the top resources to get you started and connected to some great tips, tricks, and tools!

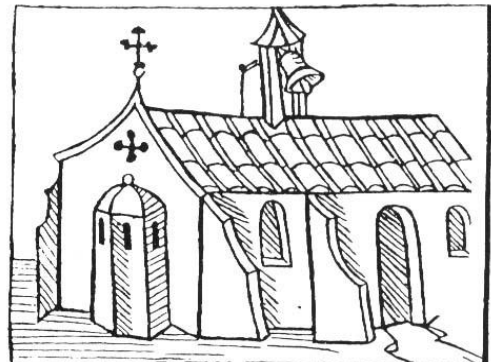
- **Virtual Answer Center:** You can now connect with an Answer Center advisor virtually through Zoom! In our virtual Answer Center, student services advisors are available to assist you with questions about admissions, financial aid, assessment, transcripts, residency and more. Visit: <https://valenciacollege.edu/students/answer-center/> to learn more and get started.
- **Academic Advising:** Have questions about your courses? Advisors are available virtually by email (advising@valenciacollege.edu) or through live chat at <https://valenciacollege.edu/about/support/atlas-advising-chat-setup.php>.
- **Valencia's Virtual Tutoring Service:** In response to COVID-19, Valencia's tutoring services have moved online and are now being offered for accounting & economics, computer programming, math, EAP and foreign languages, science, and writing. To get started, please visit: <https://libguides.valenciacollege.edu/c.php?g=1014597&p=7348794> and self-enroll in the tutoring courses in Canvas. This is where you will access the links to live tutoring (via Zoom), as well as the schedule of tutors, times, and services.
- **Valencia Counselors:** Our Valencia Counselors are here for guidance and support. Please visit https://valenciacc.ut1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_40fCWDqhRBjrNrv to set up a non-emergency appointment. Please note that it may take up to 24 hours for a counselor to contact you. If you are experiencing a mental health emergency please contact BayCare (800) 878-5470 or call 9-1-1.
- **Laptop Request:** Valencia College has a limited number of laptops available on a first come, first serve basis for student use during this time. Please visit www.valenciacollege.edu/laptop to submit a request. Note: This link will direct you to Atlas to complete the request form. For questions, please email laptops@valenciacollege.edu or call Enrollment Services at 407-582-1507.



Medieval Course Outline

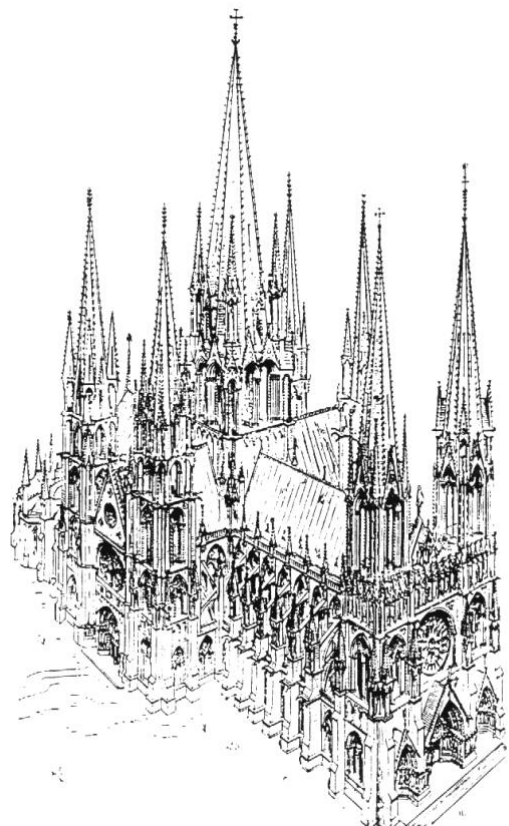
PART ONE: THE BIBLICAL TRADITION

1. Introduction to the Humanities. Disclaimer: This class engages in an academic study of the Bible.
2. Hebrew Bible I: What is the Bible? (Origins and nature of the Hebrew Bible, or "Old Testament")
[Get textbooks, watch video: "Lost Civilizations: Mesopotamia" (complete viewing guide)]
[Read HB: Genesis 1-11 & Exodus 19-20 (in Reader: pp. 18-36)]
[Name Paper assigned ("Humanities First Assignment")]
3. Hebrew Bible II: The "Cultural Function" of Ancient Stories (What texts *really* tell us)
[Reader: pp. 5-36 (Reading Guide #1)]
4. Hebrew Bible III: The Babylonian Period and the Formation of the *Torah*
[R: 18-23 (RG#2) ~ HB: Genesis 1-4] ***Name paper Due***
5. Hebrew Bible IV: The Worship of YHWH in the Bronze Age (This ain't Sunday School!)
[R: 37-47 ~ HB: Psalm 18, Deuteronomy 20, Leviticus 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 16, 19]
6. Hebrew Bible V: Wisdom Literature—The Book of Job (Hebrew philosophy in story form)
[(See CANVAS for RG#3 imbedded in Job text) ~ HB: Job 1-17, 28, 38-41]
7. Ancient Mediterranean Religions (Paganism and the Ancient Mysteries)
[Reader: 50-63] ***Hebrew Bible paper Due***
8. -Roman Palestine in the time of Jesus [lecture]
-Christianity I: Who was the historical Jesus of Nazareth? [R: 67-71 ~ CB: Mt. 1-7, Lk. 6, 15]
9. How to write a college essay (Hebrew Bible essays returned) **~DO NOT BE ABSENT TODAY~**
10. Christianity II: St. Paul and the creation of Christian doctrine (the co-founder of Christianity)
[R: 73-82 ~ CB: Romans 1-6, 13; I Corinthians 13-15] ***Ministry of Jesus paper Due***
11. Christianity III: Early Christianity (How did it survive (and what happened to the women?)
[R: 84-95 ~ (RG#3) ~ (Video: *Christianity: The First Thousand Years* (part 1))]
12. Christianity IV: The Other Christians (Alternative beliefs about Jesus)
[R: 96-107 (RG#4)]
13. Constantine & the Golden Age of Christianity
(Art, Architecture & Mystical Symbolism)
14. The Christian Roman Empire [R: 108-109]
{Review for Mid-Term Exam}
- 15. Mid-term Exam CELEBRATION!**



PART TWO: THE EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES

16. Monasticism I: Hermits (St. Anthony: *Verba*) [R: 111-136; Video: *Christianity...* (part 2)]
17. Monasticism II: Brothers (St. Benedict: *Ora et Labora*) [R: 137-147 ~ RG#5]
18. Reflections from the Monastery (Art, literature and culture of monasticism)
* **“Wisdom of the Desert” paper due** *
19. The Medieval Vision of Hell (Sins and their consequences) [R: 148-153]
* **“Vision of Brother Drythelm” illumination due** *
20. Muhammad & Charlemagne (The formation of Western Europe)
-The Rise of Islam and The European Response
21. The Carolingian Renaissance
-The Dark Ages? (Cultural syncretism in Northern Europe) [R: 154-155]
-How to Build a Castle [slide lecture]
22. *The Medieval Renaissance*
[R: 158-177]
23. *The New Piety* [Sayre, 100-115]
-Pilgrims & Crusaders
-The Cluniac Reform of the Monasteries
-The Gregorian Reform of the Church
-St. Bernard of Clairvaux [R: 180-181]
24. *The New Rationalism*
-Cathedral Schools & Universities
-Peter Abelard [R: 178-179]
-Roger Bacon: *Opus Majus* [R: 185-189]
-St. Thomas Aquinas: *Summa Theologica* [R: 190]
25. The Cult of Chivalry
[See CANVAS for Readings, also
Heloise, [R: 182-183]]
26. Gothic I
-Abbot Suger [R: 191-194]
27. Gothic II
-Villard de Honnecourt [R: 195-210]



Final Exam Celebration!

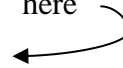
Instructions for I.D. Card

On a 3"-5" card of any color:

FRONT

Last Name, First Name - "Nickname"		#
Neatly cut and tape any picture that still looks like you – or a clear Xerox of your driver's license or student I.D. picture.	VID # (<u>not</u> your SS #)	
	Telephone # you can be reached at and hours.	
	Email Address	
	Major/Minor	
	Ultimate Degree Sought and Career Goal	

I will tell you in class what number to put here



Those of you
with a
penchant for
doodling, feel
free to
ornament
your card!



On the back, please tell me a little about yourself. Things like: Hometown, places you've traveled, cool things you have done, most interesting job, other liberal arts courses you liked, weirdest experience, religious/political leanings, foreign languages you speak, best way to spend a day off, your favorite: book, movie, music, flower, color, planet, person... What fictional character would you like to be? Do you have any special skills or superpowers? What is your secret mission in life? What makes you so angry you could scream? What makes you smile?

In short,

WHO ARE YOU?