

# AMH2020 Fall 2022

# AMH2021 Fall 2022

**Professor:** Jennifer Rivera

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**Office hours:** by appointment on Zoom

Room: WC011 – Rm 351

Class	Meets	Format
AMH2020 18122	10:00-11:15 MW	F2F
AMH2020 17324	1:00-2:15 MW	F2F
AMH2020 15752	10:00-11:15 R	HYB
AMH2020 13318	1:00-2:15 TR	F2F
AMH2020 18306	ONLINE	TWK
AMH2010 10354	8:30-9:45 TR	F2F

## Course Description:

Survey of United States history from the Gilded Age to the present, emphasizing political, social, and economic developments. Examines such topics as expansion, Populist and Progressive movements, Great Depression, the World Wars, reform and dissent in the 1960s, and the Vietnam conflict.

**CREDITS:** 3 semester hours.

Each credit hour generally corresponds to 3 hours of student engagement per week (class or virtual engagement) for a traditional 15-week course. Students should be prepared to spend at least twice that outside of class on readings, lectures, studying, research, and assignments. For an estimate, plan to devote two to three hours outside of class for every hour that the course meets.

**DELIVERY: Face to Face**

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will be able to appreciate history as an academic discipline and the role history plays in understanding contemporary life.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical discipline, including methods, historical causation, and reasoning. Students will demonstrate an understanding of political, economic, social, cultural, diplomatic, military, and intellectual influences that shaped the history of the United States. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of the limitations of the study of history.

3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the use and interpretation of historical sources and evidence.
4. Students will be able to assess the role that diversity plays in the shaping of the modern history of the United States.
5. Students will be able to demonstrate competency in civics literacy.
6. Students will be able to detect the lessons, patterns, or characteristics from historical events to better understand present-day happenings.
7. Students will be able to interpret historical events by using appropriate historical methods.
8. Students will be able to demonstrate college-level writing skills through written communication.

## **CORE COMPETENCIES**

The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:

- **Think**- think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry.
- **Value**- make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments.
- **Communicate**- communicate with different audiences using varied means.
- **Act**- act purposefully, effectively, and responsibly.

## **TEXTBOOK**

This course will use a free, online textbook that can be found at [The American YAWP](#). We will use Volume II in this course.

If you desire a physical copy of the text, there is a PDF download available from the YAWP's homepage or a traditional, printed textbook can be ordered through the Stanford University Press website.

Again, ***you are not required the purchase the text.***

## **COMPUTER/EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**ALL FORMATS:** You will need access to a computer or tablet for this course. Students are encouraged to download the [Canvas for Android](#) or [Apple](#) onto their mobile devices. Students have free access to computer labs on campus. Most public libraries also have computers with internet access that you can use for free. Students should be able to:

- use and navigate Zoom,
- use a word-processing program (Word, Google docs, etc.) to type, revise, and edit course assignments,
- use Canvas to submit assignments and upload file attachments,
- navigate electronic library databases.

**RTV COURSES:** This course requires that you meet online with instructors and other students during specific times and days. Participation online during these times is required. This course will require reliable internet and a computer with a webcam OR tablet/mobile device with a camera.

**ASYNCHRONOUS & HYBRID COURSES:** This course requires that you may need to meet with the professor online through Zoom and complete/submit work through Canvas.

## **PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM**

In F2F classes, students may use personal computers during class to take notes or to access the Internet for research. Phones should not be used during class to take notes.

## **Grading Policies**

### Categories

50%	<b>Exams</b>
30%	<b>Assignments, Discussions, &amp; Quizzes</b>
10%	<b>Geography</b>
10%	<b>Participation</b>

### Grade Scale

100-90%	<b>A</b>
89-80%	<b>B</b>
79-70%	<b>C</b>
69-60%	<b>D</b>
59-0%	<b>F</b>

For more information about college-wide grade policies, please visit the [Academic Policies and Procedures](#) page in your catalog

**EXAMS (50%):** Three exams will be given this semester. Exams will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, short answers, and essays. No makeup tests are available without the explicit consent of the instructor which will only be granted in case of documented, extreme emergency. Please visit the [Exam Module](#) for more information.

**The Final Exam will not be comprehensive.** The final exam must be taken on the date published by Valencia College.

**MODULE ASSIGNMENTS (30%):** This category includes your weekly assignments, short written assignments, quizzes, and discussions. **NO late assignments will be accepted.** Technical issues will not be considered an excuse for late assignments. Please see weekly modules for specific details. The module will close on the date listed in the module. All assignments are due by 11:59, EST on the due date listed in Canvas.

**GEOGRAPHY QUIZZES (10%):** This category includes four (4) short quizzes that will be given at the beginning of class. More information about the quizzes is located in the Geography Quiz Module. Makeup quizzes will not be allowed unless an appointment is made before the date of the quiz. Please visit the [Geography Quiz Module](#) for more information and dates.

**PARTICIPATION (10%):** Your participation in this class is essential for success in this class. Active learning promotes recall and a deeper, more authentic understanding of the material. As such, you will earn points in this category for attendance in class as well as actively participating in lectures, discussions, and class activities. You may lose these points for excessive absences, lack of participation, disruptive or rude behavior, or violating the Student Code of Conduct. What this looks like in class is that:

- students should actively contribute to the class by offering ideas,
- students should listen when other students speak, both in groups and in lectures, and
- students should maintain the confidentiality of other students.

**\*Tone:** All writing, assignments, and exams, should be completed in a formal tone unless requested otherwise.

**Extra Credit:** Throughout the course of the semester, I will offer extra credit opportunities for free exam or assignment points. If you want this credit, it must be completed when presented. Please check your announcements, email, inbox, and/or modules frequently.

## **Incomplete Grade Policy:**

As per [college policy](#), incomplete grades (such as “WP”, “WF”, “I”, “X”, “H”, or “N”) will not be given. Students having difficulties meeting the course requirements can withdraw from the course by the withdrawal deadline. Students withdrawing from the course will

receive a course grade of W. Further, students cannot withdraw themselves after the withdrawal deadline. Students who fail to withdraw before the deadline and are ineligible to continue in the class will receive an overall grade of an "F" for the course. If a student is progressing satisfactorily and can prove a valid reason (such as a serious illness requiring hospitalization) why the course cannot be completed during the term, an incomplete grade may be assigned. Students must provide proper documentation upon request. The student and instructor will work to complete the course in an appropriate and timely manner.

## **Academic Accommodations:**

Please see me at the beginning of the semester if you require any accommodations (seating, academic, etc.). Students must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and provide the instructor with a Notification to Instructor (NTI) form.

Students are responsible for making arranging testing accommodations with their professor and/or OSD at least one week prior to their testing date. If you need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information, or need special arrangements, please inform the instructor immediately.

## **Grade Inquiries**

Once an assignment is graded, you will have five days after the grade is posted to request a review of your grade. I do make mistakes so do not be afraid to ask why you were assigned a particular grade. However, do not expect to receive points for simply challenging the grade.

Before asking me why you received a certain grade, please:

1. Review the comments in Canvas. There may be comments in the document as well as general comments.
2. Make sure you have answered all parts of the question completely and correctly.
3. Make sure your assignment met the required deadlines.
4. If you still wish for me to review the grade, email me, and explain why you think your grade should be different. Use the rubric for the assignment on Canvas to evaluate your own work if one was provided.

## **INTERNET RESEARCH**

Students should always be wary of using non-peer-reviewed research materials such as what is commonly found on the Internet. Although it is a powerful tool, it is often difficult to tell if the information is reliable. Many sites contain research and information of high quality. However, unlike traditional print publications or library-based electronic resources, there is usually no process of peer review, nor is there an

editor verifying the accuracy of information presented on the Internet. There are a number of sites containing information that may be incomplete, anonymously written, out-of-date, biased, fraudulent, or whose content may not be factual. Students should, therefore, use caution in the use of the free Internet for their research needs. For academic topics that are addressed in scholarly literature, the use of electronic databases or visiting the library may better meet your needs.

## Civic Literacy Requirement

To graduate from Valencia, you are likely required to successfully complete (1) either POS 2041 U.S. Government or AMH 2020 U.S. History 1877 to Present with a D or higher and (2) pass the Florida Civic Literacy Examination (FCLE). While the course requirement has been in place for Associate in Arts (AA) degree-seeking students since 2018, the new FCLE requirement applies to all AA and Baccalaureate (BA or BS) degree-seekers who entered the Florida College System or State University System in the 2021-22 academic year. Additionally, Associate in Science (AS) degree seekers who enter the Florida College System in the 2022-23 academic year and after will also now be responsible for meeting both requirements. If you have completed accelerated credit or have passed the FCLE while enrolled in high school, you may have met one or both of the civic literacy requirements. To determine whether or not these requirements apply to you, **log into ATLAS to confirm your catalog year and review your degree audit** for civic literacy requirement status. If you still have questions after reviewing your degree audit, please visit the [Virtual Advising website](#) to connect with an advisor.

Although there is some alignment between course content and questions asked on the FCLE, additional preparation on the part of the student is highly encouraged. Students who need to take the FCLE are encouraged to complete it during the semester following successful completion of the course requirement to take advantage of having recently seen some of the FCLE topics. To help you with additional preparation, the history and political science faculty at Valencia College created a [free test preparation site](#) that we encourage you to use to round out your preparation for the FCLE. For more information about completing the FCLE, view the [Assessment web page](#) or email [assessment@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:assessment@valenciacollege.edu).

## Expectations

What to expect from your instructor

1. **Email & Canvas Inbox:** I will check email and Canvas throughout the day during the workweek and respond usually within 24-hours. I will be happy to speak with you over Zoom for online courses or in-person for traditional classes.
2. **Notifications:** To communicate with the entire class, I will post information in the announcements. These announcements may include such things as updates or changes to the schedule or reminders about the exam or clarification on points the

entire class seems to be struggling with. It is your responsibility to check these announcements. On your Canvas homepage, you should see notifications of such updates as announcements, messages, assessments, etc. You can also set your notifications to alert you through push notifications on mobile devices. If you do not, check your settings.

3. Engagement Hours: I will have a schedule posted on the course homepage of my scheduled office hours and will be available, by appointment, for meetings outside those hours.
4. Discussion Boards: I may or may not participate in student discussion boards. I will observe and, as needed, contribute to the forum.
5. Grading: I will try my best to keep up with grading. It may take as long as two weeks for major assignments like the research paper to be graded, as these are time-consuming and I make extensive comments. I appreciate your patience.

### What I expect of students

1. Email & Canvas Inbox: Students should check and read their email and Canvas announcements frequently. Students are also asked to set notifications in Canvas to facilitate this communication.
2. Canvas Notifications: Students should review all announcements. Notifications are listed at the top of the Course homepage, and you should set up your notifications to send you these notifications at a time that is appropriate.
3. Engagement: Students should log into Canvas at least three times a week & keep track of release dates and deadlines through the course calendar
4. Grades: You are expected to show initiative regarding your learning. You should expect to spend several hours a week on the course.

## Attendance

You have made the decision to invest in your future by attending college! Being on a university or college campus is a truly unique experience. Being in the college or university classroom is also truly unique. You get to interact with a diverse group of students and have the opportunity to interact with professors who have specialized in the areas that they teach. Consequently, class attendance is an important part of your time at Valencia or any other educational institution.

Valencia College and this instructor expect that students attend all class meetings. Please review Valencia's [attendance policy](#).

As such, the following is my expectation for your participation in the course:

- **Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and will be counted towards your participation grade. Please arrive before the class is scheduled to begin. You will be considered absent if you arrive after the instructor has taken attendance.

- **Excused vs. unexcused absences:** All class absences are considered unexcused with the exception of jury duty and military duty. Proper documentation is required upon returning to class.
- **Excessive absences:** You may be withdrawn from the class without your permission or prior notification for excessive, unexcused absences. The following guidelines will be followed in regard to excessive absences.
  - 15 Week F2F - total of five (5) absences.
  - 15 Week Mixed Mode - total of five (5) face-to-face class absences and/or weeks without submissions.
  - TWK F2F - total of three (3) class absences.
  - TWK Mixed Mode - total of two (2) weeks of face-to-face class absences and/or weeks without submissions.
  - Summer H1 or H2 F2F - more than one (1) week of face-to-face class absences.
  - Summer H1 or H2 Mixed Mode - more than one (1) week of face-to-face class absences and/or weeks without submissions.
- **Flex Start Schedules:** Please also remember that many of Valencia's courses are on Flex Start schedules. This means that courses may begin later or end earlier than the traditional semester schedule. This shortens the number of weeks you are in class but not the hours. You are expected to hit the ground running in these more compressed schedules so check in to the class as soon as the course opens and get to work!

\*Please note that attending class is not the same as participating in class. Your attendance/participation includes being engaged in the classroom lectures, discussions, and activities. Students who are otherwise engaged during class time, will be noted and lose participation points.

## **No-Show Policy/Checking In to the Course**

If you do not log in to the course during the first week and complete the Academically Required Attendance Activity, you will be withdrawn from the class as a "no show".

Class attendance is required for online classes; students who are not actively participating in an online class and/or do not submit the required attendance activity or assignment by the scheduled due date must be withdrawn by the instructor at the end of the first week as a "no show". If you are withdrawn as a "no show," you will be financially responsible for the class and a final grade of "WN" will appear on your transcript for the course.

**Students must complete the syllabus quiz in order to meet this requirement and "check-in" to the class the first week.**

**IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE THIS REQUIREMENT BY THE SCHEDULED DATE, YOU WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE CLASS AS A "NO SHOW."**



# Withdrawal policy

A student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadline will receive a grade of “W.” A faculty member is permitted to withdraw a student from the faculty member's class up to the beginning of the final exam period, for violation of the faculty member's attendance policy, as published in the faculty member's syllabus. A student is not permitted to withdraw from this class after the withdrawal deadline; if you remain in the class after the withdrawal deadline, you will only receive a letter grade. An "Incomplete" grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur near the end of the semester. If an incomplete is given, the work missed must be made up during the following semester for the appropriate letter grade. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of F in the course. Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “F.”

## Withdrawing From Courses

Please note that withdrawing or being withdrawn from a course may have consequences beyond just dropping the course. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of withdrawal upon your particular situation, which may:

- affect your eligibility for scholarships, grants, and financial aid,
- change your financial aid status and may require repayment of federal financial aid,
- affect your transfer grade point average,
- require that you pay the full cost of instruction fee to retake the course,
- may affect your anticipated graduation date,
- may affect your immigration status if you are attending Valencia on a nonimmigrant visa,
- will result in your required repayment of course fees paid by a Bright Futures scholarship.

See a Student Services staff member to discuss how a withdrawal will affect your career and education plans and/or the status of your financial aid. To withdraw from a course(s) you must access registration on Atlas. The Withdrawal Deadlines for each term are published in the Academic Calendar in the online official catalog. All requests for withdrawals must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the Withdrawal Deadline date.

## Recordings and Note-taking

Students may record audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use.

A class lecture is defined as a planned presentation by a college faculty member or instructor, during a scheduled class, delivered for the purpose of transmitting knowledge or information that is reasonably related to the pedagogical objective of the

course in which the student is enrolled. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to class discussions, student presentations, labs, academic exercises involving student participation, and private conversations, is prohibited. Recordings may not include the image or voice of other students in the class, may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance, and ***may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member.***

Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the College's Student Code of Conduct.

***Respect the fact that you are part of a learning community that should be a safe space for all. All voices have value in the classroom.***

Should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me through email or Canvas message.

***What this looks like in my classroom:***

- You have the right to record class lectures only when I am lecturing.
- You **DO NOT** have the right to record any class discussion or other activities. You will turn off or pause the recording when I am not lecturing.
- You **DO NOT** have the right to record the voices or the image of other students in class. You must stop recording when other students are speaking.
- You **DO NOT** have the right to share, publish, or upload these recordings without my prior, written consent. This includes sharing recordings with other students in the classroom or uploading them in any form onto any platform.
- If you violate these rules, I will consider this a violation of the college's Student Code of Conduct. You will also be violating my classroom rules and will lose all of your participation points.

\*Please also note that these policies are still being ironed out by the state and the college. There will be changes along the way. These changes will be posted here and will be announced.

## **The best way to prepare for lectures**

There is no perfect recipe for lectures, note-taking, and class. However, there are some practices that successful students have recommended.

### **Before Class**

- Read (or at least skim) the assigned chapter and previous sessions' notes. You may not understand everything, but you now have something to work with when the professor begins a lecture.
- Take notes from the assigned chapter(s). It will be less to write!
- Put away your cell phone to reduce distractions. The Angry Birds can wait!
- See if your professor has a list of lecture terms or concepts published. These can help you focus on what is going to be important. You can come to class with a rough definition of these terms.

## **During Class**

- Listen actively and focus clearly on the presentation. This is where written notes will help keep you focused!
- Listen for keywords or definitions. If a professor writes something on the board or has something included in a PowerPoint presentation, you will likely need that information.

## **After Class**

- Find a study buddy and compare notes. Others may catch what you miss.
- Review and edit your notes to fill in any missing details while the information is fresh in your mind.
- Review your notes and identify potential test questions. Many of your professors will publish possible test or essay topics for you to review.

Review your notes several times before your exam. Trying to cram several weeks' worth of notes the night before an exam is impossible.

## **Class Decorum**

Discussing history & politics today can be stressful and cause anxiety for any number of reasons. In the United States, history has historically centered on racial and, to a somewhat lesser extent, gender divisions in terms of who has full citizenship rights and who does not. This historical reality remains present in many of the political debates that dominate our discourse today. It is my belief that we can acknowledge this fact and have productive discussions that bring into focus a range of evidence-based perspectives about issues that are important to each of us.

This class will deal with topics that may be considered sensitive in nature to some students. To benefit from the “marketplace of ideas”, various academic viewpoints will be given equal time and consideration. It is vital to the success of the course that there be an atmosphere of trust and safety. Be considerate of your peers and their experiences and listen to their words. Embrace the opportunity to experience different points of view at college. Per Valencia policy, hateful or intimidating speech of any nature will not be tolerated and will result in ejection from the classroom and a possible referral for Code of Conduct violation.

You might also refer to Valencia’s Principles of How We Treat Each Other for guidelines on how to deal with difficult discussions.

## **Academic Integrity**

Each student is required to follow the university's Student Code of Conduct. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student’s individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states “group project.”

All written work is run through SafeAssign, TurnItIn, or other plagiarism detecting software. Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in a zero for the assignment with no opportunity to resubmit the assignment for a grade. A second offense will result in an automatic grade of “F” in the class, regardless of your numerical average otherwise. It does not matter what portion of an assignment has been plagiarized or otherwise cheated on – ANY portion whatsoever will result in the penalties specified in your syllabus.

You are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism and cheating and for asking BEFORE engaging in any questionable activity. If you are unsure as to what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please ask me for help before an assignment is due. No warnings will be given. All instances are subject to reporting to the dean and are subject to further disciplinary action from the college in addition to actions taken by me in this course. Again, you will not receive any warnings.

## **Virtual Spaces**

### **Netiquette**

It is important to be aware of your behavior in an online learning environment to ensure positive interactions with your instructor and peers. This requires you to follow some guidelines for behaviors.

Written communication has the advantage of time and reflection. However, written communication lacks the verbal and non-verbal cues that are inherent in face-to-face interactions. Body language, intonation, facial expressions, and gestures cannot be communicated when interacting in a virtual setting. Please be aware of the possibility of miscommunication and compose your comments in a positive, supportive, and constructive manner.

Common courtesy and good manners will apply in this course, and as we are dealing with political topics, it is important to remind everyone of what this means. We will be discussing what can be considered controversial topics in this course and they must be approached from an academic viewpoint.

I believe we benefit from the free flow of ideas in an open marketplace. However, that will only work when those ideas are articulated in a logical and well-supported manner. This is not a venue for conspiracy theories. Hate speech will never be tolerated and will likely result in punishment consistent with the college policy for violation of the student code of conduct.

Whenever online in this class, it is important to make sure we post carefully. The typed word fails to show emotions such as humor or sarcasm. Some tips for civil engagement on discussion boards:

- Avoid making declarative statements. If something is your opinion – and it is pertinent to the discussion – state that it is your opinion. You must, though, be prepared to back your opinion up with facts or data from academic sources. If in doubt, do not post your personal opinion, rather post an academic opinion based on academically sourced material.

- Acknowledge the validity of posts of other students. Even if you disagree, for the most part, try to find an area of agreement. Perhaps you have to think about the post for a while before responding. Even if you still do not find any common ground, treat their thoughts as valid while respectfully disagreeing.
- If you choose to reply with a simple thumbs-up, an “I agree” or other similar comments, keep in mind that they will not contribute to your grade.
- Avoid ALL CAPS. This is considered shouting. Also, remember that sarcasm and humor can sometimes be difficult to detect in messages. Think about how others will receive your post.
- Please do not use text/chat language. Spell out your numbers and write out your words. This is still an academic and educational setting.
- Again, no hate speech. No political rants. Stick to the questions asked.
- Watch your language. This is, again, a classroom whether it is in the virtual or physical classroom.
- Post by the deadlines noted in the modules. Points will not be earned for late posts.
- Follow the instructions in your modules for the discussion posts to earn points. Longer is not always better. You will have specific questions to answer. Make sure that question is answered. Clear and concise is fine as long as the question is answered well.

When working in groups, interact often. Be courteous. Carry your own weight. Positive good group interaction will be rewarded.

## **During Virtual Class or Office Hours**

The Valencia College Student Code of Conduct Policy applies to online and virtual behavior as well as in-person or classroom behavior. Please be professional and respectful when attending class on Zoom. The following are class policies that outline the expectations for our meetings with Zoom (video, audio, and chat). Please read carefully, these policies are effective immediately and apply for the remainder of the semester. All students are expected to adhere to the policies.

**Any changes to the syllabus and schedule will be announced**, as necessary, during the semester. The course outline and syllabus are subject to change as needed; changes will be announced in Canvas and by email. Your continued participation in this course after the drop-add deadline period constitutes an agreement with and an acceptance of the conditions presented in this syllabus.