

Valencia College
Humanities Department
Introduction to Humanities

HUM 1020
Spring 2020/3 Credit Hours



Meetings

T / Th from 10:00am - 11:15am in UWCV - 302

Instructor

Mr. Kevin McKenna

kmckenna7@valenciacollege.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description

HUM 1020 is a basic introduction to humanities. The course focuses on central concepts, historical development and fundamental nature of philosophy, architecture, music, religion and art. Concepts from such disciplines are integrated with contemporary American culture.

This course introduces students to multiple artworks, mediums, movements, and historical moments while addressing a multitude of meanings in creative human expression. Through weekly lectures, discussion sections, unit exams, and essays, students explore the aesthetic histories and social contexts of multiple works ranging from plays, painting, performance and installation art, and cinema, to philosophy and poetry. Students hone their skills of observation, interpretation, analysis, and argumentation through multiple writing assignments.

With *mediation* as the theme for this course, students discover how the political and social conditions of a particular historical or artistic movement are reflected in an individual artwork. Simultaneously, understanding each work to be an expression of social anxieties, preoccupations, or desires, students will take what they see, hear, and feel to articulate how each work makes meaning for their given space and time.

Revealing the value of art for worlds inside and outside the classroom, the course demonstrates the relevance of the humanities for a variety of academic disciplines and occupational pursuits.

Valencia 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:

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

Learning Objectives

Students in this course will develop and hone many skills related to both the content and coursework within this course.

- Students will be able to identify the social and political concerns of specific historical moments and artistic movements.
- Students will be able to explain the thematic and formal preoccupations of varying artistic movements across a plethora of media forms.
- Students will be able to discuss artworks with appropriate technical terms when discussing form.
- Students will develop the ability to turn their astute observations into a meaningful interpretation that concludes in a valuable analysis.
- Students will hone their formal writing abilities. They will be able to construct a succinct introduction with a clear thesis statement that is then delivered in a scaffolded argument that points to a clear well-developed conclusion.
- Students will learn how to engage with multiple artworks and mediums in an academic form, as well as glean how to engage with academic secondary materials.
- Students will learn how to properly research, cite, and rely upon academic sources.

Required Materials

- **Course Reader.** Available at CANVAS > Files > Course Reader > Week X. Assigned artworks and additional texts for each week will be available in the Course Reader for each week. Each text must be read **in advance** of class meetings according to the

course schedule that follows. Students **must** bring printed hard copies of literature materials when advised.

- **Note-Taking Materials.** As you will later read, **electronics are prohibited** in this classroom unless permission has been granted by the course instructor or by the University of Central Florida's Student Accessibility Services or Valencia College's Office for Students with Disabilities. Lecture slides for this course be posted online AFTER CLASS. With that in mind, students should have paper, writing utensils, and any other necessary materials to take proper notes during each course.
- **Textbook.** Fiero, Gloria. *Landmarks in Humanities*. ISBN 1260027619 Edition 4.

Academic Honesty

Any work presented in this course must be the result of one's own ideas, research or articulation. Notions, phrasing, argumentation, or organization taken from another source, scholar, or student must be appropriately acknowledged parenthetically and in a properly formatted works cited page. Failing to attribute proper credit for thoughts, ideas, or phrases used in the development of your work, **whether intentionally or unintentionally, IS plagiarism**. Be sure, that this action is a form of academic theft. This may be just a few words or phrases (whether quoted directly or paraphrased), significant portions of a paper, or an entire paper. Plagiarism also includes other instances, such as: submitting work prepared by someone other than the student whose name appears on the work, submitting a purchased essay, or submitting work previously submitted in another course without the prior approval of the instructor.

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. Each student is expected to adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Office for Students with Disabilities

Students who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first week of class. The Office for Students with Disabilities (DTC Union West 210) determines accommodations based on appropriate

documentation of disabilities. Here is the website for the Office for Students with Disabilities: <http://www.valenciacollege.edu/osd/>

Student Accessibility Services

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the instructor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must connect with Student Accessibility Services, Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the instructor.

BayCare Student Assistance Services

Valencia is committed to making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems. Students have 24-hour unlimited access to the **Baycare Behavioral Health's confidential student assistance program** phone counseling services by calling **(800) 878-5470**. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available.

UCF Cares

During your UCF career, you may experience challenges including struggles with academics, finances, or your personal well-being. UCF has a multitude of resources available to all students. Please visit UCFCares.com if you are seeking resources and support, or if you are worried about a friend or classmate. Free services and information are included for a variety of student concerns, including but not limited to alcohol use, bias incidents, mental health concerns, and financial challenges. You can also e-mail ucfcares@ucf.edu with questions or for additional assistance. You can reach a UCF Cares staff member between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 407-823-5607. If you are in immediate distress, please call Counseling and Psychological Services to speak directly with a counselor 24/7 at 407-823-2811, or please call 911.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the

semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Attendance **10%**

Students are expected to attend every scheduled class prepared, take notes, and participate during course discussions. Understandably, there are circumstances that occur in our daily lives that may interfere with our ability to attend events. For that reason, **each student is awarded three (3) unexcused absences during the semester.**

Beyond the three unexcused absences, any other absence will need to be approved by the instructor with corresponding materials to verify the need for an excused absence **at least three (3) days before the missed class** (i.e. a doctor's note with the date and time of appointment, jury duty summons, etc.). Excused absences are anticipated absences for religious, legal, or professional observances. *Examples* of absences that are **UNEXCUSED** absences and **NOT EXCUSED** absences:

- Spontaneous Illness
- Vehicle/Transportation Issues
- Residence/Dorm Room Issues that Require Attention
- Scheduled Appointment (in a situation when the student has the ability to reschedule the appointment outside of assigned class times)
- Overslept
- University/Campus Events
- Etc.

Attendance will be scored with a maximum of 100 points and will be updated throughout the semester (at the instructor's discretion). **Any absence beyond the three unexcused that is not excused by the instructor will result in a letter grade deduction for each missed class** (i.e. 4 total unexcused absences results in a B (-15), 5 tot. un. absences is a C (-10), 6 tot. un. absences is a D (-10), 7 tot. un. absences is an F (-10), etc.)

Participation 5%

Every student is expected to be prepared for class and participate with respect for the instructor and their fellow classmates. Participation is not just graded regarding breadth and frequency but also depth, how valuable the contribution is to class discussions. Lack of participation during discussion or vulgar, rude, disrespectful contributions to discussion may result in point deductions relative to the frequency and severity. **To clarify, attendance in class and diligent note-taking will not satisfy the participation requirement of this grade portion and will not earn points.** Students earn participation points by regularly, actively, volunteering to answer questions in class and offer analyses, observations, and interpretations during class discourses.

Discussion Posts 25%

Students will be required to complete four (4) discussion posts over the course of the semester. Discussion posts are designed to ensure attention to assigned homework, comprehension of previous lectures, completing a response to multifaceted questions on the prior weeks' material. Discussion posts can be found on CANVAS > Discussion > Discussion Post #. Discussion **questions will be posted to CANVAS and available for student view at 1:00pm on Thursday and will be due no later than 11:59pm on the immediately following Sunday.** Because students have three (3) full days to complete this assignment, **late posts to the discussion board will be graded as a 0 and not be accepted any later than the assigned due date unless permission is granted in advance by the instructor.** Students are welcome to respectfully comment on the discussion posts offered by their peers, but responses to other posts will not be graded as participation in discussion. To complete the discussion post assignment, each student must respond to the prompt in their own post. Discussion posts should range between 200-300 words. Any text beyond 300 words will not be read or graded. This word count cutoff is designed to exercise concision and tact when developing academic arguments. Every post should begin with a clear and identifiable thesis statement that promises a logical organization that the student's writing clearly executes. Discussion posts will be assessed on writing proficiency, quality of ideas, and clarity.

Grading for discussion posts is as follows:

- *10- Exceptional*

The student provides a clear, concise, and articulate response to the prompt. The student has engaged well with the material and integrated evidence from the selected text(s) into a strong, novel analysis with close-readings. The student has brought new information or insight beyond what has been discussed in class lectures. The analysis is exceptional and focused into a clear argument. Words and ideas from outside sources

are placed in quotation marks (when necessary) and properly parenthetically cited with a full citation at the bottom of the post.

- *8-9- Very Good*

The student responds directly to the prompt but may lack clarity or concision. The student may provide evidence from selected text(s), but analysis or interpretation of the evidence is unclear or absent. The student understands the meaning and value of each work, but does not elaborate or add to what is offered by the artwork or secondary material. The student might have quoted words of others but not properly parenthetically cited the material or is missing a bibliography.

- *7- Good*

The student mostly addresses the prompt offered by the instructor, but does not clearly address the central question or does not provide a focused response. The student may provide evidence from text(s), but it lacks proper context or analysis, or the offered evidence contradicts the claims of the student. The student seems to slightly misunderstand some minor value of the artwork or secondary material. There are no citations in the post and words or ideas from others are not properly credited.

- *0-6- Needs improvement*

The student that scores in this category will have one or many of these issues and the score will correspond with the severity of each instance. The student does not address the prompt or central question offered by the instructor. The discussion post is far too brief to demonstrate any engagement with the materials. The post lacks any reference to selected text(s). The student has plagiarized the post. The student does not complete the discussion post by the required deadline of **Sunday at 11:59pm**.

Discussion posts will be scored out of a total of 40 points at the end of the semester. Each discussion post will be worth a total of ten (10) points but contribute towards 25% of the final course grade.

Reading Quizzes 20%

Students will be required to complete reading quizzes on assigned material prior to coming to class on the day quizzes are assigned. Quizzes will be completed on Tuesdays when there will be a scheduled course lecture; currently, reading quizzes are assigned for the following dates: **F 1/10 (Syllabus Quiz), T 1/14, T 1/21, T 1/28, T 2/11, T 2/18, T 2/25, T 3/17, T 3/24, T 4/7, T 4/14**. THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ASSIGN READING QUIZZES PRIOR TO ANY CLASS ON ANY DAY, IN WHICH CASE STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN CLASS AND VIA CANVAS MESSAGING. All reading quizzes may be accessed on CANVAS > Quizzes > Quiz #. All reading

quizzes will be available at 1pm on the Thursday prior to the class meeting at which they are due. **All reading quizzes are due at 9:59am prior to class meetings. There are no exceptions and failing submit a completed quiz prior to this time on the assigned date will result in the score of a zero.** ****THE ONLY EXCEPTION WILL BE THE SYLLABUS QUIZ ASSIGNED ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, Tuesday 1/7; THIS SYLLABUS QUIZ WILL BE DUE FRIDAY NIGHT (1/10) BY 11:59PM TO CONFIRM ACADEMIC ACTIVITY.**** Students will have **UNLIMITED** attempts at the quiz prior to the assigned deadline to allow for the highest score possible. Students will not be allowed to see correct and incorrect answers during or after completing the quizzes. Each reading quiz will consist of five (5) questions and be worth a total of 5 points individually. The ten (10) (or more if more quizzes are assigned) reading quizzes will total 20% of your final grade.

Unit Tests **(13.33% Each Test) 40%**

Students will be administered three (3) unit tests throughout the semester—including the final examination. These tests will be comprehensive but not cumulative, meaning that the material on each test will only contain material assigned as homework and discussed in course lectures that the students have not responded to on previous unit tests. The unit tests will comprise of multiple choice questions for a total of 50 points per exam. Each exam will contribute towards 13.33% of a student's final grade; together, the three unit tests will contribute towards 40% of a student's final grade. On the day of exams, students will come to class with proper writing utensils. Unless directed by the University of Central Florida Student Accessibility Services or Valencia College's Office of Students with Disabilities, electronic devices, notes, course materials, or any other additional material at the time of exam is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED and offending students will be asked to hand in their exam and to leave the classroom. Additional penalties for cheating will be applied depending on the severity of the case.** Students **MAY** elect to take their exam at the university's testing center. This is permitted, but the students **MUST register with the testing center and schedule the exam appointment AT LEAST FIVE (5) DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXAM.** Unit tests are assigned for the following dates: **Thursday, 2/6; Thursday, 3/5; Tuesday, 4/21.** **Students MAY NOT makeup missed exams without authorization or approval from the instructor and a scheduled makeup date and time before the test. If a student misses an exam without approval from the instructor PRIOR to the exam, the student will receive a 0 for the assignment.**

Grading

The following scale applies to all assignments and final grades. Because I offer multiple extra-credit assignments throughout the semester, **I DO NOT ROUND FINAL**

GRADES. The instructor reserves the right to administer *pop (surprise)* quizzes, which will be added to exam scores.

90.000 - 100 = A 80.000 - 89.999 = B 70.000 - 79.999 = C 60.000 - 69.999 = D

Any grade below a 60 results in an F. The only acceptable LATE assignments are the 10 on 1 Paper and Research Paper. However, late essays will be penalized **ONE GRADE STEP** for **EACH DAY** late (i.e. an A becomes a B+ after one day, B after two days, C+ after three days, etc.).

There are only a few exceptions to this policy:

- Accommodations are made for students with accessibility needs provided a current Memorandum of Accommodations from Student Accessibility Services is provided to the instructor at least **THREE (3) DAYS** prior to the assignment in question. As a rule, students are responsible for registering with SAS in order to receive academic accommodations.
- Accommodations are made for religious holidays. Students who anticipate such absences must provide notice to the instructor at least **THREE (3) DAYS** in advance.
- Written documentation of illness from a qualified doctor.
- Written documentation from authorized source for mandatory service requested by the government (i.e. jury duty, military service, etc.).

Course Policies

- Electronic devices of all kinds (laptops, tablets, cell phones, video game consoles, etc.) are **prohibited** in the classroom, unless stipulated by Student Accessibility Services or Office of Students with Disabilities. Students that use electronic devices without expressed consent by SAS / OSD or the instructor will be **marked absent** for that class period. Students that require accommodations must consult the instructor regarding this matter at the start of the semester.
- Students are responsible for accessing and maintaining all electronic copies of materials provided on CANVAS. Students are also responsible for maintaining all hard copies of assignments returned to students.
- Students may not circulate, sell, lease, or otherwise distribute audio recordings or handwritten notes for this course. Students must consult the instructor before recording a lecture for personal or academic use.
- It is the responsibility of the student to monitor electronic messaging on CANVAS and email regarding class scheduling changes, assignment changes, and Valencia / UCF operations.

- The instructor reserves the right to amend or change the syllabus at anytime. If this occurs, the instructor will notify the students in the classroom and via electronic messaging.
- **The add/drop deadline for this course is Thursday, 1/19; the last day to withdraw from this course with a “W” is Friday, 3/20. I absolutely do not withdraw students from my courses. It is up to the students to make this decision and the students’ responsibility to perform this action prior to the deadline.**

Course Schedule

W1 T 1/7 - Introductions and Syllabus Review

 Th 1/9 - What are the Humanities

Read: Behrendt, “The Relevance and Resiliency of the Humanities” (CANVAS)

DUE: Syllabus Quiz (Friday, 1/10 by 11:59pm)

W2 T 1/14 - Origins: The First Civilization

Read: Fiero, Ch. 1 (p. 1 - 31)

DUE: Reading Quiz #1

 Th 1/16 - *Epic of Gilgamesh & Tao Te Ching*

Read: Excerpts (CANVAS)

W3 T 1/21 - Classicism: The Greek Legacy

Read: Fiero, Ch. 2 (p. 33 - 67)

DUE: Reading Quiz #2

 Th 1/23 - *Antigone & Nicomachean Ethics*

Read: Excerpts (CANVAS)

DUE: Discussion Post # 1 (Sunday, 1/26 by 11:59pm)

W4 T 1/28 - Empire: The Power and Glory of Rome

Read: Fiero, Ch. 3 (p. 69 - 93)

DUE: Reading Quiz #3

 Th 1/30 - *Pantheon, Arch of Titus, & Trajan’s Victory Column*

View: Images (CANVAS)

W5 T 2/4 - Exam Review

Th 2/6 - UNIT TEST #1

W6 T 2/11 - Christendom: Europe in the Age of Faith

Read: Fiero, Ch. 6 (p. 147 - 175)

DUE: Reading Quiz #4

Th 2/13 - *Maestá*

View: Images (CANVAS)

W7 T 2/18 - Rebirth: The Age of the Renaissance

Read: Fiero, Ch. 7 (p. 177 - 215)

DUE: Reading Quiz #5

Th 2/20 - Giotto & Michelangelo

View: Images (CANVAS)

DUE: Discussion Post #2 (Sunday, 2/23 by 11:59pm)

W8 T 2/25 - Encounter: Contact and the Clash of Cultures

Read: Fiero, Ch. 9 (p. 243 - 261)

DUE: Reading Quiz #6

Th 2/27 - *Sundiata, Cliff Palace, Temple of Kukuclan, & Machu Pichu*

View: Images (CANVAS)

W9 T 3/3 - Exam Review

Th 3/5 - UNIT TEST #2

W10 3/9 - 3/13 SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS!)

W11 T 3/17 - Enlightenment: Science and the New Learning

Read: Fiero, Ch. 11 (p. 297 - 327)

DUE: Reading Quiz #7

Th 3/19 - Locke, Equiano, & Wollstonecraft

Read: Excerpts (CANVAS)

W12 T 3/24 - Romanticism: Nature, Passion, and the Sublime

Read: Fiero, Ch. 12 (p. 329 - 357)

DUE: Reading Quiz #8

Th 3/26 -Wordsworth

Read: Poems (CANVAS)

DUE: Discussion Post # 3 (Sunday, 3/29 by 11:59pm)

W13 T 3/31 - American Romanticism & Walt Whitman

Read: Poems (CANVAS)

Th 4/2 - Cole, Beethoven, & Chopin

View: Images (CANVAS)

Listen: Videos & Music (CANVAS)

W14 T 4/7 - Modernism: The Assault on Tradition: Picasso & Duchamp

Read: Fiero, Ch. 14 (p. 387 - 419)

View: Images (CANVAS)

DUE: Reading Quiz #9

Th 4/9 - Mondrian & Pollock

View: Images (CANVAS)

W15 T 4/14 -Globalism: Information, Communication, and the Digital Revolution

Read: Fiero, Ch. 15 (p. 421 - 472)

Due: Reading Quiz #10

Th 4/16 -Hong Kong New Wave and *Chungking Express* (Wong Kar Wai, 1994)

View: Film (CANVAS)

Due: Discussion Post # 4 (Sunday, 4/19 by 11:59pm)

Final Examination: Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00am - 12:50pm