

### Course Syllabus: INTRO TO HUMANITIES 1020

### Instructor: Professor Melanie Osborn

### CRN 14034 & 14472

### Fall 2022: Online Course

**E-Mail:** mosborn@valenciacollege.edu

**Virtual Office Hours:** Please contact me via email or through Canvas to schedule

**Office Phone**: N/A

**Course Location:** Online course

**Course Description:**

This 3-credit hour online class is a basic introduction to humanities. It focuses on the central concepts, historical development and fundamental nature of philosophy, architecture, music, religion, and art in a chronological and thematic method. Concepts from such disciplines are integrated with contemporary American culture. Our textbook focuses primarily on Western humanities; some connections to non-Western cultures are made and you are encouraged to make those connections in your discussions.

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None

**Term**:

Full Term: August 22 – December 11

Final Exam Week: December 5-11

Final Due: December 9

**Textbooks and materials:**

PLEASE NOTE: I have digitized the needed material for this course located in the Content section in Canvas. **You do not need a text for this course**. However, if you would like to purchase the textbook for additional reference purposes, see below.

*Landmarks in Humanities – Gloria K. Fiero*

*ISBN 9781307563955*

*5th Edition – Valencia College (any edition is ok)*

All readings and other materials available on Canvas

[https://www.valenciabookstores.com/default.asp?](https://www.valenciabookstores.com/default.asp)

Additional resources are available online through the Valencia Library Research Guides at <http://libguides.valenciacollege.edu/content.php?pid=329642>

**Major Learning Outcomes for HUM1020:**

This course will provide an overview of major events in the culture of humanity. Students should have a basic knowledge of key cultural events and trends from Ancient through contemporary times. This course will provide a reference for cultural topics studied in future courses in various disciplines.

* Connect personal experience to the humanities
* Interpret a work of art, literature, philosophy, or religion
* Analyze multicultural perspectives

This course seeks to reinforce the following Valencia Student Competencies:

* **Think** clearly, critically, and creatively by analyzing, synthesizing, integrating, and evaluating symbolic works and truth claims.
* Reflect on your own and others’ **values** from individual, cultural, and global perspectives.
* **Communicate** by reading, listening, writing, and speaking effectively.
* **Act** purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly by implementing effective problem solving and decision-making strategies.

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| **IMPORTANT DATES** **Fall 2022:** | First Day of Class: August 22Labor Day, College Closed: September 5Drop/Refund Deadline: August 29No Show Reporting Period: August 31 – September 9Application Deadline for Graduation: September 9Withdrawal deadline “W”: October 28Veterans Day, College Closed: November 11Thanksgiving Break, College Closed: November 23-27Final Exam Week: December 5-11Last Day of Classes: December 11Grades Viewable in Atlas: December 13 |

**Online Course Environment**

An online course is a course in which all the content is delivered online at Valencia using the college-approved course management system. Online courses can provide opportunities for students to attend anytime from anywhere; however, the online student must take responsibility for his or her own learning. In any distance education program**, the capacity for self-directed learning is crucial**. While instructors and fellow students can provide some support, **the online distance learner is expected to provide the internal motivation to manage his or her own learning during study and have a basic grasp of Internet navigation skills and word processing skills.** Canvas is used to deliver all instruction in this online course and the student is responsible to learn to use this delivery system. All assignments for this course will be online, there are no onsite campus visits for this course. **Troubleshooting tips*:*** Make sure you are logging into Canvas directly through <https://online.valenciacollege.edu/> , not through Atlas, since Atlas will “time out” while you are working. Also, you may need to disable your pop-up blocker to view attachments.

**Attendance:**

This is an online course, available 24/7, managed through Canvas. You must have access to the Internet (available on all Valencia campuses) to complete the course requirements. Your online attendance is checked based on your participation in the course and submission of coursework. In the event of an extended absence, you should contact me via email or phone as soon as possible to indicate the reason. If you do not access the course website or contact me letting me know of your absence for a period of seven consecutive days, you will be contacted and if there is no communication within 48 hours, you will be withdrawn from the course up until the withdraw deadline. After the withdraw deadline, students with an absence of more than 7 days will receive the final grade that is earned according to the course grading policy.

To be successful in an online class you must keep up with the weekly deadlines. You should login a minimum of three days per week and plan to dedicate 6 hours a week total to class work.

**Late Work & Make-Up Policies:**

There is no make-up work in this class, and late work is not accepted. Please make note of all due dates so you are aware of when assignments are due. I provide several extra credit opportunities (see below), and they can be used to help your grade if you do miss an assignment. Please be mindful of ALL due dates!

**Extra Credit:**

I try to provide several extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. If you have any questions about this extra credit opportunity, please let me know. These opportunities usually consist of attending Valencia hosted events and online lectures and completing a short essay about the experience, and/or pop quizzes, etc. All extra credit opportunities are announced beforehand with instructions.

Withdrawals*:*

The deadlines for students to withdraw themselves are **August 29th (to get a refund)**, and **October 28th** **(to avoid getting an F)**. Anyone who has Financial Aid should consult his/her Academic Counselor before withdrawing.

Class attendance is required for online classes; students who do not actively participate in an online class via weekly discussions 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.”

**First Week Required Attendance Activity:** Students must complete the mandatory Week 1 discussion and orientation. If you do not login and complete the Week 1 assignments by **August 31st** you will be withdrawn from the course as a no-show during the no show period: **No Show Reporting Period: August 31 – September 9**

**Students with disabilities statement**:

Valencia is committed to ensuring that all its programs and services are accessible to students with disabilities. [The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)](http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/) determines reasonable and appropriate accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities based upon the need and impact of the specific disability.

Any student requiring course accommodations due to physical, emotional, or learning disability must contact the instructor and provide a *Notification to Instructor* form by the end of the second week of class. To obtain a letter of accommodation, contact OSD at 407-582-2229.

**BayCare Student Assistance Services**

Valencia College strives to ensure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help with issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home, or work. [BayCare Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP)](http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/studentservices/baycarestudentassistanceservices/) services are free to all Valencia students and available 24 hours a day by calling (800) 878-5470. If needed, the counselor may refer the student to appropriate resources or to speak face-to-face with a licensed counselor.

**Distance Tutoring & Technology Support at Valencia**

You can easily access Valencia’s free distance tutoring and tech support from a computer, laptop, or mobile device. Distance tutoring services are provided fully online via Zoom. Through this service, you will receive real-time assistance via a Valencia tutor. Online tutoring is offered in mathematics, sciences, accounting & economics, computer programming, EAP and foreign languages, and writing.

Online Learning Technology Support services are also available. Students can receive assistance with navigating: Canvas, OneDrive, Zoom, YouTube, and Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, & PowerPoint). Support is also provided for video editing (via iMovie and Moviemaker) and converting documents from a Mac to PC. Tech support is available live (on-demand) via Zoom, by appointment, or via email. Students are encouraged to use the 24/7 Canvas Help located inside Canvas by clicking on the “Help” icon.

To get started using the Distance Tutoring and Learning Technology Support services, please visit www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring. Through this site, you can view the schedule of tutors/tech support assistants, find available times, learn more about the services, and access a collection of supplemental resources that are available 24/7.

**Academic dishonesty:**

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 test situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive. Anyone found to be academically dishonest would automatically fail the class. **You are expected to do your own work on all assignments.**

Plagiarism or cheating on an exam will result in a “0” without the opportunity to rewrite the assignment. What is Plagiarism?

[Plagiarism - Valencia Writer - LibGuides at Valencia College](https://libguides.valenciacollege.edu/c.php?g=394082&p=2677410)

* Copying a website or textbook verbatim without using quotation marks and/or providing an in-text citation and Works Cited page.
* Submitting another student’s work as your own.
* Changing words or paraphrasing from a textbook or website without giving credit to your source (i.e., Works Cited page and in text citation).
* Supplying incorrect information about your sources.

**Professionalism:**

Students may find the Student Code of Conduct in the current *Valencia Student Handbook.* The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty.

* Assignments should be turned in on time. Assignments are due by the designated due date and *will not be accepted late*.
* Students are expected to keep up with the pace of the class. This is not a self-paced class. You must keep up with the due dates and assignments due each week. You should expect to log-in to class at least two-three times per week
* In class discussions, you are encouraged to express your opinions and respond to the opinions of others. Please be respectful when responding to your peers. It is OK to disagree, but please do so respectfully.

**Sensitive Materials:**

Course content aims to enable students to reach course goals and objectives. As such, students may be introduced to a wide range of topics and ideas that differ from familiar understandings and beliefs. Some content may be considered sensitive, offensive, or disturbing (or all the above) by some students.

**College Level Writing:**

All homework and papers must demonstrate “college level writing” for completion of this course. This link to the Humanities homepage explains college level writing and gives samples of what is and what is NOT college level writing. It also links you to tips to help you with your writing and places to go if you need additional assistance, including our on-campus communication center:<http://valenciacollege.edu/west/arts-and-humanities/writing/>

For a student to meet the criteria for college level writing in Humanities, and achieve a grade of C or better, they must be able to demonstrate the following skills through multiple writing assignments:

1. Evaluate appropriate primary sources (visual arts, architecture, performing arts, literature, religious texts, philosophy, and music) and make original observations, about those sources.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the connection between the primary sources, the historical period, and cultural movements occurring at the time the sources were produced.
3. Formulate an argument that uses primary sources as evidence to defend a central thesis statement.
4. Employ grammar, spelling, punctuation, writing mechanics, and format appropriate for a college student preparing for real world situations in a continuing academic or professional environment.

Most the discussions in this online class will revolve heavily around your own opinions and I always encourage you to speak your own mind and maintain your own individuality in our assignments.

**But Most Importantly:**

* Complete reading assignments and participate in discussions for the course in Canvas.
* Participate and contribute to all learning activities - Actively participate in all work, learning and discussions (including completing readings prior to discussions) related to learning activities.
* Be a positive student and teammate –- Conduct yourself in a professional and scholarly way that will enable peers and faculty to perceive you as a positive role model.
* Have fun! 😊

**EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT METHODS:**

#### **Class Discussions (due EOD Fridays) & Peer Responses (due EOD Sunday)**

Most weeks you will have class discussions and peer responses, where you are asked to post an original discussion post of 250 words or more based on the assigned readings. Your original discussion post, thoughts and questions are due Friday by EOD (end of day). Your two peer responses are due Sunday by EOD. Your response should answer all parts of the question in paragraph form suitable for a college-level class. If the discussion question requires that you view or read other material, such as video clips or articles, make sure you refer to it in your response. You should use your own words; if you are found copying the words of a classmate or another source, you will receive a zero for the assignment. **Your responses to the discussion questions should be at least 250 words**.

NOTE: Please do NOT submit your discussion as an attachment.

**The following rubric will be used to grade discussion posts:**

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| **Excellent response**: **Discussions awarded a grade of 100 points**All parts of the question are answered completely in 250 words or more. Your discussion makes a connection to the text and shows depth of thought and original thinking. Includes any necessary supporting evidence, details, examples, and citations. Post adds new information, and new thinking and enhances critical thinking and stimulates further discussion from other students. Presented clearly and demonstrates professional vocabulary and writing style. The discussion is submitted on time. You have responded thoughtfully to TWO of your classmate’s posts. | 100 points |
| **Good response**: **Discussions awarded 80-99 points**All parts of the question are answered thoroughly and thoughtfully. Responds to at least ONE other students. Postings add new ideas or suggestions to other students’ post. Some of the content (but not all) includes supporting ideas, evidence, details, examples, and citations. Posting is presented clearly an demonstrates both professional vocabulary and writing style.  | 80-99 points |
| **Satisfactory response**: **Discussions awarded 60-79 points**Part of question is answered but lacks thoughtful discussion. Posting lacks new ideas or suggestions. Posting is not presented clearly and demonstrates unprofessional vocabulary ad writing style. No peer responses. | 60-79 points |
| **Unsatisfactory Response: Discussion awarded 60 points or less**Discussion response has errors or omissions in original post or does not respond to other student or the student has not participated in any discussion thread.  | 60 points or less |

Peer Responses: In your responses to other classmates’ postings, you must offer legitimate feedback, do not just say “I agree” or “I do not agree.”  TELL me and your classmates why you do or do not. Please be aware, you will not be given credit for “I agree” or “I do not agree” responses. Most weeks I will give directive and guidance on your peer responses.

**Characteristics of a Good Discussion Post:**

* **Knowledgeable**: Reflects your knowledge of the assigned readings and presentations
* **Thought-provoking**: Stimulates thinking and contributes to the depth of the discussion by adding new information, insight or posing a relevant question.
* **Timely**: Posted so that your peers have time to respond; this contributes to a rich discussion
* **Professional**: Clear, precise, and grammatically correct.
* **Conveys "your presence":** It reinforces your opinions with evidence from your experience that augments the readings and presentations Please note that you have until Friday or date specified of the current week to post your replies, do not delay.

**You MUST comment on at least 2 of your classmates’ posts by EOD Sunday to receive the full 100 points for the discussions.**

#### **Writing Reflections:**

#### Short writing assignments which offer opportunities for creative and reflective writing. A rubric will be available for each assignment.

#### **Quizzes**

Quizzes will be multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, and short answers. All questions and answers will come from your readings online.

1. **Creation Myth Research/Presentation and Peer Reflections**

All human societies, including our own, tell stories about how the world began. Creation myths are stories invented by early man to understand our origins. Most of us are familiar with the Western creation story from the book of Genesis with Adam, Eve, and the Garden of Eden. But there are hundreds of other creation stories, and these stories are incredibly diverse, depending on culture and location. Yet, the one thing they have in common is the human desire to explain where we come from: the origins of earth, animals, plants, and humans. Students will find and research a creation myth from a culture and/or belief that is NON-WESTERN (NO Jewish, Christian, or Muslim creation stories (Abrahamic religions). Students will then give a PowerPoint or Prezi slide presentation on this creation story. Students are then required to complete and submit peer reflections. The goal of this project is to explore the incredible diversity found in other cultures, specifically the creation stories. Through their research and presentations, students will learn more about these diverse cultures, explore the idea of myth in culture, and discover the vast similarities found in these creation stories, and what brings us together as humans. Specific instructions are provided to the class in advance of the due date, including topic options and resources. Please note that to receive credit for both the presentation and the peer reflections, students are REQUIRED to participate during the dates scheduled for the presentation.

1. **Cultural Experience or Creative Project:**

Share a cultural experience or creative project with us!

Students will present one cultural experience they have experienced this semester, or a creative project. Options can include, but are not limited to:

Please ONLY CHOOSE ONE TO COMPLETE (a cultural experience OR a creative project):

***Options for the Cultural Experience:***

* Visit a museum (in person or virtually) – choose one or two pieces to share with the class, along with a short reflection on your visit and the pieces you chose
* Visit a religious institution that is not your own (i.e., if you are Christian, go to a Jewish or Buddhist temple or a religion that is not your own. If you are not a religious person at all, then any place of worship will do.) This event is free and should not cost anything unless you wish to contribute to the faith of your choosing.
* Attend one of the Fall 2022 Humanities Events and write a short reflection of your experience: [EventsCalendar\_Fall22.pdf: Humanities Digital Venue (instructure.com)](https://valenciacollege.instructure.com/courses/88303/files/35676419?module_item_id=11375938)
* More options will be available during the semester

***Option for the Creative Project:***

* Recreate or retell a moment in history: Choose a moment in history - either from our readings and discussions, or your choice – and rewrite history – what changes would you make and why? This can be as wild and creative as you want – you write a short play, a poem, or song lyrics describing the specific item that you have chosen. For example, you could author a poem or song lyrics reflecting your thoughts or reactions.
* Create a digital project: a recording of you singing or reciting a poem you wrote, animation or presentation which you create.
* Create an artwork, model, or diorama and post a photo along with explanation.
* Create social media pages for historical figures (i.e., IG or FB account), magazine covers, or newspaper headlines, etc.
* Participate in the “museum challenge,” a recreation of any famous artwork. You may have seen this online recently: <https://mymodernmet.com/recreate-art-history-challenge/> Here are some examples from previous students (with permission to use)

Figure 1: Vincent Van Gogh Student Creative Project

Figure 2: Frida Kahlo Student Creative Project

Figure 3: Picasso Student Creative Project

I had a student recreate a story with just stick figures and it was great, so this is not about the QUALITY of your creativity, but the critical thinking and effort you put into trying something, and most importantly have fun and make this a representation of YOU.

1. **FINAL Art Assessment**

Students will choose one piece of historical art (references to be provided) to assess. This assignment teaches you how to look at art: asking you to think, describe, and connect with the art you are looking at, and discuss what you have learned about art so far and what it has taught you about our past.

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| Evaluation Criteria | Percent |
| Creation Story Presentation and Peer Reflections | 20% |
| Cultural Experience/Creative Project/Extra Credit | 15% |
| Discussions and Writing Assignments | 25% |
| Quizzes | 20% |
| Final Art Assessment  | 20% |
| Total Available | **100%** |

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| Percent | Grade |
| 90% - 100% | **A** |
| 80% - 89% | **B** |
| 70% - 79% | **C** |
| 60% - 69% | **D** |
| 0% - 59% | **F** |

***Disclaimer: This syllabus may be change at any time at the discretion of the instructor.***

***Students will be informed of any changes via announcement in Canvas.***

**Course Schedule: Introduction to Humanities Fall 2022- ONLINE**

Please note: Discussion posts are due Fridays by midnight; two peer responses are due Sunday by midnight, unless otherwise noted. All assignments and due dates available on Canvas.

**Week 1 August 22 – August 28**

Introductions and Being Human and Why Humanities Matters

**Please complete:**

Syllabus Quiz DUE 8/28

Introduction Post DUE 8/26 and Peer Responses DUE 8/28

Discussion DUE 8/26 and Peer Responses DUE 8/28

Mandatory Orientation DUE 8/28

**Week 2 August 29 – September 4**

Origins: The First Civilizations

Focus: The Epic of Gilgamesh

Discussion DUE 9/2 and Peer Responses DUE 9/4

Gilgamesh Quiz DUE 9/4

**NO Show Reporting Week**

**Week 3 September 5 – September 11**

Virtual Field Trip to Ancient Greece and Rome

Writing Assignment DUE 9/11

**College Closed September 5 – Labor Day**

**Week 4 September 12 – September 18**

Classicism: The Greek Legacy

Focus: Sappho and Love in Ancient Greece

Writing Assignment Due 9/18

Quiz Due 9/18

**Week 5 September 19 – September 25**

The Greek Legacy Continued

Focus: Plato’s Allegory of the Cave

Discussion Due 9/23 and Peer Responses Due 9/25

**Week 6 September 26 – October 2**

Empire: The Power and Glory of Rome

Focus: Gladiators and The Colosseum

Writing Assignment Due 10/2

Quiz Due 10/2

**Week 7 October 3 – October 9**

The Power of Rome Continued

Focus: Warts and All – The Treasures of Ancient Rome

Writing Assignment Due 10/9

Quiz Due 10/9

Creation Myth Presentations Check in and Library Research Week

**Week 8 October 10 – October 16**

Revelation: The Flowering of World Religions

Focus: Dante’s Inferno and Mysticism: The works of Hildegard of Bingen and Rumi

Writing Assignment Due 10/16

**Week 9 October 17 – October 23**

The Medieval World

Focus: The Power of the Printed Word and Machiavelli’s Prince

Discussion due 10/21 and Peer Responses Due 10/23

**Week 10 October 24 – October 30**

The Rise of the West and Europe in the Age of Faith

Focus: European Witchcraft Trials

Discussion Due 10/28 and Peer Responses Due 10/30

Writing Assignment Due 10/30

**October 28 – Last Day to Withdraw**

**Week 11 October 31 – November 6**

Rebirth: The Age of the Renaissance

Focus: The Mona Lisa: Then and Now

Discussion Post Due 11/4 and Peer Responses Due 11/6

**Week 12** **November 7 – November 13**

Romanticism: Nature, Passion, and the Sublime

Focus: Nature as Teacher

Writing Assignment Due 11/13

**November 11 – Veterans Day – No Class**

**Week 13 November 14 – November 20**

Encounter: Contact and the Clash of Cultures

Creation Myths Project Due 11/18 and Peer Responses Due 11/20

**Week 14 November 21 – November 27**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Week 15 November 28 December 4**

Globalism: The Modern World-Your World

Focus: Graffiti as Art & James Baldwin - “A World That is White No Longer”

Discussion Due 12/2 and Peer Responses Due 12/4

Creative Project or Cultural Event Due 12/4

**Week 16 December 5 – December 9**

Final Exam Week

Final Art Assessment Due December 9

**December 11 – Classes End**

**December 12 – Grades Due**

**December 13 – Grades visible in Atlas**

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to alter the grade structure, make-up policies, and

modify assignments, including, but not limited to, adding assignments and unannounced

quizzes. I strive to grade assignments within one week of the due date. If you have a question about a grade, please email me your concern no later than one week (7 days) after the assignment has been graded.

***Disclaimer: This syllabus may change at any time at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be kept informed of any changes via announcements in Canvas.***

## HELPFUL COLLEGE LINKS:

[[*College Catalog*](http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/)](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/catalog/)

[[*Valencia Policy Manual*](http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/)](https://valenciacollege.edu/about/general-counsel/policy/)

[[*Student Handbook*](http://valenciacollege.edu/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf)](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/student-services/documents/student-handbook.pdf)

[[*Microsoft Office Instructions for free software*](http://valenciacollege.edu/support/howto/documents/Valencia_Office-ProPlus-Instructions.pdf)](https://valenciacollege.edu/about/support/documents/Valencia_Office-ProPlus-Instructions.pdf)

[[*Course Support*](http://valenciacollege.edu/learning-support/)](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/learning-support/west/)***: onsite, online tutoring, writing help, etc.***

[*Valencia College Library*](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/library/)

**STUDENT CONTRACT- HUM 1020-** **14034 & 14472**

I have read and understand all the requirements, including but not limited to grading and attendance policies, outlined in the syllabus, and agree to follow said procedure throughout the duration of the course. I have met all prerequisites necessary for this course. If I am confused about the requirements of a particular exam or project, I will make every effort to contact the instructor and seek clarification on the matter as soon as possible. If I am absent, it is my responsibility (not the Professor's) to acquire all pertinent information concerning assignments given in my absence. I will read the assigned text and come to class prepared to intelligently participate in class discussion.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\**Your signature of agreement will be you completing the first discussion. You do not need to sign this and send to me.*

**To succeed in this course, consider these suggestions:**

* **Use Good Time Management** - Set a schedule for reading, studying, participating in the discussion forum, working on your essays, and preparing for exams. Allow enough time for assignments. Stick to your schedule. Stay on task.
* **Work Through the Course Content** - Make use of the resources that your professor provides. They will reinforce the major learning outcomes of the course.
* **Get Involved in Your Class** – Respond to your classmates’ discussions, ask questions in our discussion forum, and help other students.
* **Go online OFTEN** – Make it a habit to check our classroom often. Read announcements, read all new posts, and keep informed about what is going on. Use the UNGRADED Discussion forum to ask questions about course content or assignments.
* **Seek assistance when needed** – If you need help, contact your instructor.
* **HAVE FUN** – Most importantly, enjoy your time in this course! This class connects with history in a way that encourages you to be introspective and creative.