

| Course & Division Info | Instructor Contact Info |
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| LIT 1000 CRN 15864  Online Canvas, Eight Weeks  3 Credit Hours Communications' Division Office West Campus 407-582-1313 | Instructor: Dr. Nicole Spottke  Email: through Canvas Inbox  Office Hours Live, virtually, via Zoom appointment: M&W 3pm-515pm; T 10am-noon; F 9:30am-11am; Saturday 10 am-11 am  Office Hours on West Campus in the Writing Center: M&W 645pm-715pm |

# About this course

## Catalog Description

This three-credit course will focus on a variety of literary genres, with some emphasis on works by international authors. Students will be introduced to methods of reading and writing critically about literature with a focus on cultural and historical understanding.

## Major Topics/ Concepts/ Skills/ Issues

Critical Reading

Cultural context of literary works

Characteristics of poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction

## Major Learning Outcomes with Evidence, Core Competencies and Indicators

* Analyze texts using literary elements and genre characteristics.
* Employ writing strategies to interpret literary texts.
* Utilize critical reading strategies to interpret literary texts.
* Examine cultural context presented by diverse textual perspectives.

## No Prerequisites

## Course 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.

## Important Dates

# Start Date: Friday October 14

# Drop/Refund Deadline: Monday

# Withdrawal Deadline: Friday November 18

# Off Veteran’s Day: Thursday November 10

# Off Thanksgiving: Wednesday November 23-Sunday November 27

# End Date: Sunday December 11

# Course Policies

## HB 7 Disclaimer

This class requires participation in discussion to meet course-learning outcomes. We are a class comprised of individuals. As such, there will be multiple opinions expressed throughout the semester that you may not personally agree with or even understand - as may be expected. My role as an instructor is to facilitate freedom of expression that is relevant to the course, credible, open and respectful without the promotion or endorsement of a single viewpoint. Conversations informed by diverse viewpoints contribute to critical thinking and higher-level learning. Even if you don’t agree, listening to different points of view may give you further insight into your own perspectives. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint, or belief in a concept. Concepts as presented are not endorsed by the instructor but are presented as part of the larger course of instruction. Should a student feel uncomfortable with how course content is presented or discussed, please contact the instructor for further conversation.

## Student Code of Conduct

Valencia is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but also to the development of responsible personal and social conduct. As a registered student, you assume the responsibility for conducting yourself in a manner contributing positively to Valencia’s learning community and not impairing, interfering with, or obstructing the orderly conduct, processes, and functions of the college.

## Attendance Policy/Online Participation

Online attendance is required and necessary for receiving information. Logging on only once a week is not sufficient and does not count as attendance. To get the most of this course, you are responsible for logging in and checking mail messages, announcements, and discussion messages at least once every four days.

If you are unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with me as soon as possible to create a plan to complete any missed assignments so your learning can progress in your course. In the case of a prolonged online absence, please communicate with me as soon as possible to create a plan for the best course of action. Do note, sometimes the best course of action is to take a medical withdrawal and repeat the course.

## No Show Policy

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 on financial aid will be asked to re-pay the amount of the class. Other scholarship sponsors may also require payment.

## Withdrawal

See Important Dates for deadlines (with refund or without academic penalty). 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 at the student’s request. 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 can only receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F, or I.

## Incomplete

An I grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances occurring near the end of the semester. If you receive an I, the work missed must be made up during the following semester, at which time you will earn an A, B, C, D, or F. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in a grade of F. Any student withdrawing from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “F.” International students on an F1 Visa may lose their F1 Visa due to an attendance withdrawal.

## Financial Aid Notice:

To academically maintain financial aid, students must meet all of the following requirements: Complete 67% of all classes attempted, and maintain a Valencia GPA of 2.0 or higher, and Maintain an overall GPA (Grade Point Average) of 2.0 or higher, and complete degree within the 150% timeframe. Detailed information about maintaining satisfactory academic progress can be found at [Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP): How to Keep Your Financial Aid](https://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory-progress.php)

## Academic Integrity

## Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s words, ideas, pictures, design, and/or intellectual property without the correct documentation and punctuation. Your professor has a no-tolerance approach to plagiarism. Students’ work will be submitted to Unicheck for verification of originality. If you submit wholly or partially plagiarized work, you will be penalized for the offense. This includes reusing old work from a previous class without permission from your professor.

If you are cutting from somewhere and then pasting into your writing without

* 1. Quotation marks,
  2. Citations, *and*
  3. A bibliographic entry on the works cited page, then you are plagiarizing.

If you take a passage from a source, a single sentence, or more without appropriately citing the source information, you will receive an F in the course. Offering a sentence, sentences, a full paragraph(s), or even a full essay will result in an F in the course. In extreme circumstances, academic action will be taken against you. Read the [Academic](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/disputes/academic-integrity.php)

[Dishonesty policy](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/disputes/academic-integrity.php) found in Valencia’s online policy manual.

## Class Media Policy

Students may record video and/or audio of class lectures for their personal use. Recordings may be a useful tool to support your learning and provide a resource for review. It is important to be respectful of your peers’ rights to privacy; with that in mind, please refrain from recording your peers during lectures. You may not record class discussions, student presentations, labs, group work, and private conversations. Further, you may not publish or share recordings without my written consent, nor may you provide recordings to classmates as a substitution for class participation and attendance. If necessary, I will handle violations of this section through the College’s Student Code of Conduct.

## Student Grievances

Valencia College is committed to providing each student a quality educational experience. Faculty members have set high standards of instruction for themselves and for you. If you have a problem in a class, your first step is to talk to your instructor. If you are still dissatisfied, you may talk with the academic dean of the division for your class. We will work together to resolve any issues that arise. See the phone number and location of the Communications Division at the top of your syllabus.

## Grading Policy

You will earn points for each assignment completed. You must earn 600 points to pass with a D. A list of assignments, points, and due dates are posted on the last page of this syllabus and in Canvas. You will earn points for quizzes, journal entries, discussions, writing exercises, a final portfolio, and online participation. There is no final exam. Work is due Mondays and Fridays.

## Grading Breakdown

Rubrics are available for each assignment. Be sure to read through these carefully for how your work will be graded.

This is the breakdown of points for each unit.

* Unit One Orientation Module 85 pts
* Unit Two Characterization 175 pts
* Unit Three Setting and Personal Space 185 pts
* Unit Four Personal Voice and Narration 250 pts
* Final Portfolio 190 pts
* Online Participations 125 pts

Total Points: 1010 (the 10 points are extra credit built into the course)

**Grading Scale is by Points** 900-1000 points is an A 800-899 points is a B

700-799 points is a C

600-699 points is a D

## There is no Final Exam in this course.

## Late Work

Work to be reviewed by your instructor must be submitted on time to earn instructor feedback. Failure to submit your work on time will leave you without my feedback. These are the assignments to be submitted on time: Girl/Boy/… in Four Parts; Creatively Writing Setting and Space; Two Letters Write for Rights; Goodreads Book Review.

For all other assignments, I do understand problems happen in life. Not feeling well? Family emergency? Bad day at work? Whatever is keeping you from submitting the assignment before the due date, no worry. Assignments close two days ***after*** the assignment is due. This two-day grace period is to reduce stress as you are welcome to submit work without penalty. I will only extend the due date for requests made in advance of the due date and only under special circumstances. I will not reopen assignments for requests made after the due date.

## Extra Credit Policy

Extra points are built into the semester. Because of these extra points, there will be no “bumping up” of grades due to being “so close” and no extra credit offered. Don’t ask. 700 points are required to pass this course.

## Copyright Policy

To avoid copyright infringement, any materials produced specifically for this class can only be used during this term for this class.

## Third-Party Software & FERPA Policy

Valencia College has a firm commitment to protecting the privacy rights of its students.

# Course Communications

## Contact Your Instructor

Send me questions via the Canvas inbox. I will respond within 24-48 hours during the week, Monday through Friday, longer on weekends and holidays.

You MUST check your Canvas inbox, Canvas announcements, and Atlas email account regularly— at least every four days—for class cancellation notices, important announcements, etc.

Want to be a most successful student? Check your messages and announcements daily! Appointments for meeting online, live via Zoom, may be made as needed, just ask. I block time out of my schedule (see online engagement hours listed on the first page of this syllabus). If you’d like to meet me during this time, send me a message via Canvas Inbox, and I’ll send you a link for our meeting. If these hours do not work for you, contact me at least 24 business hours in advance, and we can see about setting up a different time to meet. We can review your writing together, discuss literature, and/or clarify questions. This is my time set up for you.

## 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.

All students are expected to:

* Show respect for the instructor and for other students in the course
* Respect the privacy of other students
* Express differences of opinion in a polite and rational way
* Maintain an environment of constructive criticism when commenting on the work of other students
* Remain focused on the learning topics during discussions and activities

From Kent State University:

“Taking an online course and corresponding via the World Wide Web presents communicators with the task of overcoming the lack of nonverbals in communication. When taking a course online, it is important to remember several points of etiquette that will smooth communication between the students and their instructors.

1. Avoid language that may come across as strong or offensive. Language can be easily misinterpreted in written communication. If a point must be stressed, review the statement to make sure that an outsider reading it would not be offended, then post the statement. Humor and sarcasm may easily be misinterpreted as well, so try to be as matter-of-fact and professional as possible.
2. Read first, write later. It is important to read all posts or comments of students and instructors within the course discussion before personally commenting to prevent repeating commentary or asking questions that have already been answered.
3. Review, review, then send. There’s no taking back a comment that has already been sent, so it is important to double-check all writing to make sure that it clearly conveys the exact intended message.
4. An online classroom is still a classroom. Though the courses may be online, appropriate classroom behavior is still mandatory. Respect for fellow classmates and the instructors is as important as ever.
5. The language of the Internet. Though still a fairly young type of communication, certain aspects of this form of communication are becoming conventional. For example, do not write using all capital letters, because it will appear as shouting. Also, the use of emoticons can be helpful when used to convey nonverbal feelings (example: :-) or :-( ) but avoid overusing them.
6. No inappropriate material. Do not forward virus warnings, chain letters, jokes, etc. to classmates or instructors. The sharing of pornographic material is forbidden."

## Email Etiquette

Please, clearly state your message. I want to understand what you are asking of me. I want to be able to help you with whatever trouble you are having, want to answer what questions you may have.

Send me questions via the Canvas inbox. I will respond within 24-48 hours during the week, Monday through Friday, longer on the weekends and holidays.

## Expectations of Students

* Please, check your Atlas email, Canvas Inbox, and Canvas announcements regularly throughout the week, at least every four days.
* Please, devote 24 hours each week to this course.
* For guidelines on how to interact with your instructor and peers read through [Our Practice of Respect and Community Building](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/peace-justice-institute/who-we-are/principles.php). Some highlights from these principles are:
  + - Create a hospital and accountable community
    - Suspend judgment
    - All voices have value
* Please, inform me of any issues affecting work submission, before the submission due date.

## Expectations of Instructor

* I will provide a variety of feedback on submitted assignments within two weeks.
* I will address each of you following the guidelines as indicated in the P JI Principles.
* I will notify you of changes to the course work via Canvas Inbox or Announcements tools.

# Textbook & Required Materials

In response to rising textbook costs, I have opted to use Open Educational Resources (OER). All materials for this course are free and will be provided as links within the course modules.

## Other readings

A novel of your choice from the list of titles available for free online through Valencia’s databases.

# Technology Requirements and Skills

## Technology Requirements

Students should verify computer software and hardware requirements to ensure course work can be submitted successfully. Since all assignments are submitted through Canvas (unless otherwise noted), access to a computer is required for this course. Students have free access to computers at all Valencia campuses.

Canvas lists minimum computer specifications and supported browsers to ensure compatibility. The Google Chrome browser is recommended.

My recommendation: Download three browsers to your computer: Firefox, Safari, and Chrome.

If something does not work on Canvas, try another browser. If the problem persists, contact the help desk.

## Technical Skills

Students should consider the basic computer skills needed to be successful in this course, which include:

* Reading and responding to emails
* Software application skills (PowerPoint, Word, Office365, FlipGrid, Padlet)
* Internet and library database browsing
* Copying and pasting
* Saving files in MLA (Modtern Language Association) format
* Working with attachments
* File management

Canvas 101 is a free self-paced course available for students to learn more about using the Canvas learning management system we are using for this course.

## IT Support Services/Canvas Help

Contact the Online Courses Help Desk, not your professor. Click on the Question Mark on the Canvas Global Navigation tab or call 407-582-5600. Ask for a confirmation code.

# Student Support Services

## Learning Support Centers

Each Valencia campus has a Learning Center providing resources such as tutoring, writing consultations, and skillshops to students. To locate available resources for the campus closest to you, view the [Learning Support website.](https://valenciacollege.edu/students/learning-support/)

## Brainfuse

Brainfuse is our new 24/7 online tutoring and learning hub, which is available to all of Valencia’s students. This service is best used as a back-up to Valencia’s Distance Tutoring service, not as a replacement. Brainfuse is accessible through Canvas or by visiting [www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring](http://www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring)

## Library

At each campus library, librarians and other qualified staff can assist students with searching and finding items and information, MLA (Modern Language Association) and APA (American Psychological Association) citations, and technologies. The library provides a variety of books, eBooks, online articles, textbooks, DVDs, and streaming videos to support course-related research and other learning needs. View the [library libguide](https://libguides.valenciacollege.edu/quickstartlibraryguide) for more information including tutorials on the following:

* H ow to Connect to the Library Online
* H ow to Request Books from College and University Libraries
* H ow to Access eBooks At Valencia Library

## Offices for Students with Disabilities

Valencia is committed to ensuring all of its programs and services are accessible to students with disabilities. The Office for Students with Disabilities (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 this purpose, Valencia students can receive 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) 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.

# List of Work Due

| **Week** | **Date** | **Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines** | **Points** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit One: Orientation Start Here Week One (85 pts)** | | | | |
| 1 | Monday, Oct. 17, 11:59 pm | Readings; Post and Responses Discussion Getting to Know Each Other; What is Literature Padlet; Quiz (Plagiarism Policy and Syllabus quiz); Book Choice | 85 | |
| **Unit Two: Characterization (175 pts)** | | | | |
| 1 | Friday, Oct. 21, 11:59 pm | Readings; Girl/Boy in Four Parts (assignment required on time for instructor feedback); Bildungsroman Analysis of "Boys & Girls" | 25 | |
| 2 | Monday, Oct. 24, 11:59 pm | Readings; *Trifles* and *Doll’s House* Discussion; Continue Reading Your Novel | 50 | |
| 2 | Friday, Oct. 28, 11:59 pm | Readings; ePortfolio: Girl/Boy in Four Parts; Continue Reading Your Novel | 100 | |
| **Unit Three: Setting and Personal Space (185 pts)** | | | |
| 3 | Monday, Oct. 31, 11:59 pm | Journal: Setting and Personal Space; *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* and *I’m Not Leaving* Discussion | 75 | |
| 3 | Friday Nov 4, 11:59 pm | Creatively Writing Setting and Space (assignment required on time for instructor feedback) | 10 | |
| **Unit Four: Personal Voice and Narration (250 pts)** | | | | |
| 4 | Monday, Nov. 7, 11:59 pm | Module Overview; Readings; Globalized Curriculum Who Are You? Survey; Human Rights & Voice Journal; Write for Rights Choice | 45 | |
| Returning to Unit Three for ePortfolio submission | | | | |
| 4 | Friday, Nov. 11, 11:59 pm | Readings; ePortfolio: Journal Creatively Writing Setting and Space | 100 | |
| Returning to Unit Four | | | | |
| 5 | Monday, Nov 14, 11:59 pm | Write for Rights Letters; Quiz on Global Slavery Index | 40 | |
| 5 | Friday, Nov. 18, 11:59 pm | Readings and TedTalks; Discussion Non-fiction | 20 | |
| 6 | Monday, Nov. 21, 11:59 pm | Readings; ePortfolio: Write for Rights Letters and More Submission | 135 | |
| **Final Portfolio (190 pts)** | | | | |
| 7 | Monday, Nov. 28, 11:59 pm | Readings; Goodreads Signup; Goodreads Book Review (assignment required on time for instructor feedback) | 20 | |
| 8 | Monday, Dec.5, 11:59 pm | Readings; Final Portfolio Items: Goodreads Book Review Due and Welcome Page | 170 | |
| Online Participation Calculated up to Final (by Dr. Spottke) | | | 125 | |

## Disclaimer Statement

Changes to the course syllabus and list of work due may be made at the discretion of the professor, and students will be notified of any changes to the class and/or via the Canvas Inbox conversations tool.