

Contemporary Literature 2174: Multimedia Literature and the Holocaust Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Paul Licata
Office: 5-156
Telephone ex.: 1496

Course Description: This course is intended to explore the content, structure, and impact of both written and visual 20th literature of the Holocaust. Students will be expected to analyze, synthesize and comment upon the content and media materials covered in the course. Students will also be required to complete “response pages” for their reading and viewing assignments. Students will compose three or four analytical essays whose topics will be derived from the course materials. Thusly, the student-writing will meet the multiple college-level writing Gordon Rule requirement.

Required Texts: Frankl, Viktor E. *Man’s Search for Meaning*. New York: Washington Square Press, 1984.
Spiegelman, Art. *Maus: A Survivor’s Tale*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1986.
Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. Trans. by Stella Rodway. New York: Bantam Books, 2006.

Other reading material may include “A Concise History of German Anti-Semitism” by Paul Licata; PowerPoint on Nietzsche by Prof. David O. Sutton and “Elements of Mise-en-Scene” by David O. Sutton and Gail Lathrop—these material will be electronically provided by the instructor via website.

Alternative viewing materials may include: Triumph of the Will, Twisted Cross, Night and Fog, Obedience, The Wave, Jakob the Liar and/or La Bella e’ Vita

Attendance: After two absences students will be sent an excessive absence notice; if student is absent again (three absences) he/she will be withdrawn from class.

Tardy: Being late (or leaving early) will count ½ absences.

Grading: Students will write about four essays with appropriate MLA documentation.

Final grades will be determined by the following criteria:

Essay average	80%
Response pages*	10%
Preparedness, and participation	10%

Essays will be graded on the standard letter-grade scale (where A =4.0; A- =3.75; B+ =3.5; B^= 3.25; B=3.0 etc.)

All papers (unless otherwise announced) will be uploaded to mygraderight.com

Late work will be reduced by one letter-grader per day (not class days) from the start of class

on the day the assignment is due.

Writing Requirements: The Florida state college system requires that all students enrolled in Gordon Rule courses write multiple college level essays. Essays will be assigned to meet this requirement.

If a learner ceases to come to class and does not formally withdraw from the class, missing assignments will be averaged into the final grade

Passing Grade Requirement: In accordance with the Gordon Rule, student must have (1) earned a grade of "C" or better for class assignments and (2) received a passing final exam grade. Failure to meet either of these requirements will preclude the student's receiving a passing grade in the course

Drafts: All Final drafts *must* be in blue or black ink. Pencil drafts will not be accepted and will continue to be late until acceptable draft is received.

Late Work: No late papers or other assignments will be accepted without prior approval from the instructor. No papers or assignments will be accepted if they are not handed in by the student assigned to the class. *Late work will be reduced by one letter-grade per day, beginning at the "start of class" on the date the assignment is due.*

Mailbox-5-231 Any materials that need to be "dropped off" must be placed in the instructor's mailbox. **Materials left on or under my office door (5-156) will be discarded.**

Office hours will be posted on instructor's office door (5-156).

Plagiarism: Any plagiarized work will be assigned a grade of F. When questions of authenticity arise, the student will be held responsible for providing evidence of the work's originality. Students should, therefore, keep copies of the outlines, rough drafts, and final drafts. Remember plagiarism can result in failure of the assignment, failure of the course and/or expulsion from the college/

Textbooks: Students should always have the appropriate texts in class. If the student is uncertain which text will be used, it will be the student's responsibility to bring all texts, if necessary. **A student without a text is unprepared, and being unprepared will negatively affect the student's final grade.**

Cell Phone or Texting in class:

Texting or other cell phone use is not permitted in class. On the first (1st) violation, the learner will be dismissed from class for ten (ten) minutes (after which, if the learner chooses, he or she may return to the work of the class. On the second (2nd) violation the learner will be dismissed from the class and be considered absent for the day (see attendance policy). On a third occurrence, the learner will be withdrawn from the class and will receive an F for the semester. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Course Assignments and Grade Calculation:

Writing Standards/ Rubrics (For Essay Assignments) Students are expected to demonstrate writing skills in describing, analyzing and evaluating ideas and experiences. Written material must follow specific standards regarding citations of authors' work within the text. Students are encouraged to use the services of the college's writing center when preparing materials. Grades will be assigned for written material in accordance with the following general criteria.

NOTE: Letter grades may be assigned for any or all of the following reasons:

"A" Range: Outstanding achievement; significantly exceeds standards

- o Unique topic or unique treatment of topic, takes risks with content; fresh approach.
- o Sophisticated/exceptional use of examples.
- o Original and "fluid" organization; all sentences and paragraphs contribute; sophisticated transitions between paragraphs.
- o Integration of quotations and citations and/or concrete details is sophisticated and highlights the author's argument.
- o Confidence in use of Standard English; language reflects a practiced and/or refined understanding of syntax and usage.
- o Sentences vary in structure, **very few, if any mechanical errors** (no serious mechanical errors).

"B" Range: Commendable achievement; meets or exceeds standards for course.

- o Specific, original focus, content well handled.
- o Significance of content is clearly conveyed; good use of examples; sufficient support exists in key areas.
- o Has effective shape (organization), effective pacing between sentences or paragraphs.
- o Quotations, citations and/or concrete details are integrated into argument to enhance the flow of ideas.
- o Has competent transitions between all sentences and paragraphs.
- o Conveys a strong understanding of standard English; the writer is clear in his/her attempt to articulate main points, but may demonstrate moments of "flat" or unrefined language.
- o May have a few minor mechanical errors (misplaced commas, pronoun disagreement, etc.), **but no serious mechanical errors** (fragments, run-ons, comma splices, etc.)

"C" Range: Acceptable achievement; meets standards for course

- o Retains overall focus, generally solid command of subject matter
- o Subject matter well explored but may show signs of underachievement
- o Significance is understood, competent use of examples, though too few concrete details
- o Structure is solid, but an occasional sentence or paragraph may lack focus
- o Quotations, citations and/or concrete details are integrated into argument
- o Transitions between paragraphs occur but may lack originality
- o Competent use of language; sentences are solid but may lack development, refinement, style
- o Occasional minor mechanical errors may occur, but do not impede clear understanding of material
- o **No serious mechanical errors** (fragments, run-ons, comma-splices, etc.)

"D" Range: Unsatisfactory achievement; does not meet acceptable standards

Note: The "D" grade is a passing grade; work that is not of "passing quality" should receive grade "F".

- o Significance of content is unclear
- o Ideas lack support, elaboration
- o Lacks sufficient examples or relevance of examples may be unclear
- o Support materials is not clearly incorporated into argument
- o Expression is frequently awkward (problematic sentence structure)

- o Mechanical errors may often impede clear understanding of material
- o May have recurring serious mechanical errors (fragments, run-ons, comma splices, etc.)

"F" Range: Fails to meet minimal standards

- o Ignores assignment
- o Lacks significance
- o Lacks coherence
- o Includes plagiarized material (intentional or unintentional)
- o Lacks focus
- o Difficult to follow due to awkward sentence or paragraph development
- Mechanical errors impede understanding

Definition of Grades: **A** Outstanding Achievement: Significantly exceeds standards **B** Commendable Achievement: Exceeds standards **C** Acceptable Achievement: Meets standards **D** Unsatisfactory Achievement: Below standards **F** Failing

Grading Scale:

Essays will be graded on a 4-point scale according to the following sample standards (A= 4; A- = 3.75; B+= 3.5; B^=3.25; B= 3.0 etc. through F) according to the criteria noted above.

Summary/Response pages will receive a check or check- (minus) (pass (check) or fail (check-))

Extra credit can be earned by the learner’s level of activity in the course.

VVC Classroom Policies

Objectives . To reinforce CLASP competencies acquired in ENC 1101 by reading and comprehending research articles on literal and critical levels and cataloging them appropriately. To demonstrate that comprehension in student writing by creating a formal, documented research essay that synthesizes and presents student learning without plagiarism.

To experience some practical aspects of the core competencies of *Think, Value, Communicate, and Act*.

Valencia Core Competencies: Valencia faculty have defined four interrelation competencies (*Think, Value, Communicate, Act*) that prepare students to succeed in the world community. These competencies are outlined in the College Catalog. In this course, through classroom lecture and discussion, group work, and other learning activities, students will further their mastery of those core competencies. Additional information is available in the College Catalog.

CLAS: Evidence of College Level Academic Skills (CLAS) is a graduation requirement. To the extent possible, you will be encouraged to develop reading skills, essay skills, and English

language skills as part of your work in this course. Additional information is available in the current Valencia College Catalog.

Academic Dishonesty: All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive. Sanctions available to the professor should a violation occur are described in the Valencia Student Handbook or online at [http://valencia.cc.fl.us/policies/PDF 110-16.pdf](http://valencia.cc.fl.us/policies/PDF%20110-16.pdf).

College Withdrawal Procedure: The College has initiated withdrawal procedures and timelines in response to legislation/rules adopted by the state legislature and State Board of Community Colleges. The deadline to withdrawal from this course is in the current catalog, and is also available online at <http://valenciacc.edu>. After that date, if a student withdraws or is withdrawn from the course, the student will be assigned either a "WP" (withdrawn passing) or a "WF" (withdrawn failing).

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