







**Course Syllabus Short Form  
Valencia State College – East Campus  
HUM 1020: Introduction to the Humanities FACE TO FACE  
Spring 2023 - 16 weeks**

**INSTRUCTOR: Scott Erker, MA Anthropology, Religion**

**CLASS: Building 1 - Room 115**

**CLASS TIME: MON WED 10:00 am - 11:15 am**

Instructor’s Campus Office: Bldg 6, Rm 118 // MC: 3-35

Humanities Dept. Phone #: (407) 582-2810

College Main Phone #: (407) 299-5000

**Email: Students should contact me through** **Canvas mail**.

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT HOURS:**

Afternoon Zoom sessions - time to be determined.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a basic introduction to Humanities that focuses on central concepts, historical developments, and the fundamental nature of philosophy, architecture, dramatic theater, psychology, painting, music, cinema, mythology, photography, religion, Native American culture, and art. Concepts from these disciplines will be integrated with contemporary American culture.  There is no prerequisite for this course. It is not a Gordon Rule writing course and therefore will not satisfy the Gordon Rule requirements of the State Board of Education, Rule 6A-10.30.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a result of taking this course, students will be able to:

* Articulate connections between humanities and life
* Interpret a work of art, literature, philosophy, or religion
* Show sensitivity towards different cultural perspectives

**CREDIT HOURS: 3**

PREREQUISITE: None

**MIXED MODE COURSE ENVIRONMENT**

As this is a face to face course, most of the course content; including instruction videos, discussions, quizzes, and other assignments will be delivered online using the college-approved course management system - CANVAS.  The online content can provide opportunities for students to attend anytime from anywhere; however, the 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 the course of 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. **Students should visit the course at least every 48 hours to remain up-to-date on communications from the instructor and fellow students.**

**REQUIRED TEXT**

The following text is required and must be purchased by each student for successful completion of the course:

***Landmarks in Humanities* by Gloria Fiero, 4th or 5th edition (Valencia custom edition)**

**BASIS OF EVALUATION**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a point system. Each assignment, quiz, and test will be worth a certain number of points. Grade distribution will be as follows:

Points Earned Final Grade

90-100 % of pts. available A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

less than 60% F

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance is an important part of your grade and will be judged based upon your timely completion of assignments and attendance in class - if you fail to complete assignments in a timely fashion and fall more than two modules behind or you miss 4 or more consecutive classes you will be automatically be withdrawn from the course.  You will also be given a participation grade which points are earned from your regular attendance.

Let the instructor know ahead of time if you are going to miss class.

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

The instructor does not distinguish between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. For severe medical conditions that result in excessive absences, consult the Dean of Students concerning Valencia’s medical withdrawal policy.

If you are an [international student](http://international.valenciacollege.edu/current-students/maintaining-visa-status/" \t "_blank)

[Links to an external site.](http://international.valenciacollege.edu/current-students/maintaining-visa-status/" \t "_blank), or a [student on financial aid](http://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory_progress.cfm" \t "_blank)

[Links to an external site.](http://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory_progress.cfm" \t "_blank), it is your responsibility to know how a "W" will affect your status.

**STUDENT WITHDRAWAL POLICY / WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE**

Friday March 24th at 11:59 pm is the deadline for withdrawing from a class for the Fall 2022 term. If you withdraw from a course prior to this date, you will automatically receive a “W,” regardless of the grade you were earning at the time. (See the Attendance Policy above for how absences--in the form of missed assignments or discussions--will affect a student's status in the course.)

**INTERRUPTED QUIZZES OR EXAMS**

Occasionally it happens that your server, computer, or Canvas has an error while you are taking a quiz or an exam, and you need to have the exam or quiz reset. If that happens, you can contact me to help you if I am able to—only if the deadline has not passed. Please be aware of and take into account my office hours. If you email me at 11:55 pm when your quiz is due by 11:59 pm that same day, you should not expect a response from me before the deadline. By the following morning, when I read your email, the deadline will have passed and you will not be eligible to retake or take the quiz you missed. Please plan accordingly.

**GUIDELINES AND GRADING CRITERIA FOR DISCUSSION BOARDS**

Students are required to post to the Discussion Board on a regular basis, as this is the only way to create a "classroom" atmosphere.

* All original threads should contain a minimum of 150 words, and must be posted by 11:59 pm on Wednesday of the week for which it is assigned. Anyone who does not post their initial thread by the deadline on Wednesday will automatically receive a zero for the Discussion Board, and it will count as an “absence.” (See the Attendance Policy for how “absences”—in the form of missed assignments or discussions—will affect a student’s status in the course.)
* You should usually respond to the posts of two other students unless otherwise stated. These responses should each contain a minimum of four to five (4-5) sentences (not counting the greeting) and should be posted by 11:59 pm on Sunday of the week for which it is assigned. Please include a greeting that includes the name of the students you are responding to. (Example: "Hi, Katrina. I really like what you said about so-and-so, but here's how I feel about that . . .)
* You must edit your work before posting. If a post contains numerous spelling, grammar or sentence structure errors, no points will be given.  **BEWARE OF PLAGIARISM**
* **use of an outside source must be cited with the accompanying in text citations; MLA STYLE**

Posts will be graded according to the following criteria:

* Mastery of the subject matter and concepts
* Evidence of strong critical thinking skills through analysis, synthesis, and/or evaluation
* Writing that is clear, edited, articulate, and free of major grammatical errors
* Thoughtful, engaging responses to classmates' posts that enrich the discussion

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

**Plagiarism is defined as taking ideas, writing, etc., from another and passing them off as one's own. It is morally and academically indefensible. Any assignment showing signs of plagiarism will receive a zero.**

**VALENCIA PHOTO ID**

Every student must have a new Valencia photo ID in order to check out library books or to use any of the facilities in the library such as the Testing Center. You can get a new ID card in the Security Office on the second floor of building 5 on East Campus.

**SUMMARY OF COURSE POLICIES**

* Students must take the syllabus quiz and post an introduction on the Discussion Board by 11:59 pm on the first Wednesday after the semester begins in order not to be dropped from the course as a “No Show.”
* A student who fails to submit assignments (or take quizzes or tests) with seven different due dates will automatically be withdrawn from the course. (See full attendance policy above.)
* Deadline for taking quizzes and tests: Quizzes and tests will be posted for one day and must be completed by 11:59 pm each day to which it is assigned - usually a Sunday. Extensions are not automatic; they may be given if a student can offer proof of extenuating circumstances that caused them to legitimately miss a quiz or test deadline.
* Deadline for submitting homework assignments: Some homework assignments will be due by 11:59 pm on Wednesdays, and others will be due by 11:59 pm on Sundays. Students are responsible for knowing the due dates for each assignment. Specific information about each assignment can be found by clicking on "Tasks" at the top of each weekly module. Late work will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances that can be proven by appropriate documentation.
* Participation and contribution to class discussions via the Discussion Board are required for successful completion of the course. When discussions are assigned during a given week, each student must post their initial thread by 11:59 pm each Wednesday, and respond to two other students by 11:59 pm on Sunday. Anyone who does not post their initial thread by the deadline on Wednesday will automatically receive a zero for the entire Discussion Board, and it will count as an "absence."
* **Academic honesty: Throughout this course, we will discuss our opinions and insights openly. However, when it comes to assignments, quizzes, or exams, you may not share answers with another classmate! Academic honesty is absolutely maintained in this course. You will receive a zero for any assignment that is plagiarized, and may receive a failing grade for the course.**
* Communication with Professor: Valencia faculty and staff communicate with students through Canvas. It is your responsibility to check the course messages in Canvas. Failure to check your messages and email does not excuse you from any notices that may be sent to you. When communicating with your professors, you should use professional standards of etiquette. Emails should include a greeting and closing and should be respectful in tone.
* The professor is not responsible for any technical issues. These issues should be resolved with the help of Canvas Support (Phone 407-582-5600).
* Discussion Etiquette: Please refrain from making any disparaging or disrespectful comments to any participant in the course and limit your comments to those which directly relate to the topic of discussion.
* Quizzes and Tests will be open ay 8am the morning of the deadline for taking them, and must be completed before the end of that day. Quizzes and tests must be completed once they are opened. You will not be allowed to open a quiz, save your work, and return to finish it. Once opened, you must complete it.

**GRADE EVALUATION AND GRADE SCALE**  
Evaluation:  
Assignments POINTS POSSIBLE  
16 Discussions (10 points each) = 160 points  
6 Quizzes (10 pts each) = 60 points  
6 papers – 6 Response Papers  
(15 pts each) = 90 points  
1 Multimedia Assignment (extra credit) = (+10 pts)  
1 Midterm Test = 30 points  
1 Cumulative Final = 50 points

TOTAL = 390 points

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**INTRO TO HUMANITIES - BASIC COURSE OUTLINE**  
[Subject to change]

**Week 1   Orientation - Painting I**

**Week 2   Painting II**

**Week 3   Architecture**

**Week 4   Sculpture - Propaganda**

**Week 5   Hinduism / Buddhism**

**Week 6   World Mythology**

**Week 7   Rock and Roll - Midterm Online**

**Week 8   Dramatic Theater - Musical**

**Week 9   Classical Music**

**Week 10  SPRING BREAK**

**Week 11  Native American Culture**

**Week 12  Photography**

**Week 13   Cinema I**

**Week 14   Cinema II**

**Week 15   Psychology - Monomyth**

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**Final Exam    Monday April 24th**

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER BREAK!

Also, Please remember...

**COVID-19 Wellness, Reporting, and Support**

If you find yourself feeling unwell and suspect you might be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19, or have been in close contact with someone who has the COVID-19 virus, please stay home. Please also report this to Valencia’s COVID-19 case manager Tanya Mahan, at [COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu), so the College can determine how to best support you.

If you are unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with me as soon as possible in order to create a plan for the best course of action.   In the case of a prolonged online absence of one week or more, you and I will meet to discuss options and determine your ability to continue in the course.