**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**HUM 1020 INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES**

**VALENCIA COLLEGE—Spring 2021**

**Online**

**Jan 11 – April 29th**

**Instructor Information**

* Instructor: Shawn Grant, PhD
* Office Hours: By email or by appointment
* Email: Sgrant43@valenciacollege.edu

**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.

**Course Information**

* **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.

* **Textbook & Additional Materials**
  + **Textbook:**
    - Fiero, Gloria. *Landmakrs in Humanities.*ISBN 1260027619 Edition 4
  + **Additional Materials:**

Any additional readings will be provided on Blackboard

* **Credit Hours**: 3
* **Canvas**
  + This course makes extensive use of Canvas. Students should plan to check Canvas and their email multiple times per week.
  + Canvas information will include
    - Lecture Notes
    - Study Guides
    - Course Readings in the form of PDF Documents
    - Resources for successful writing in this course
    - Online quizzes
    - Etc.
* **Communication**
  + Please feel free to stop by my office hours anytime, or if those times are not possible please request an appointment.
  + Otherwise feel free to email me. During the week I will normally respond within 24-48 hours. Emails sent on the weekend will most likely receive a response on Monday. If you do not receive a response, please assume I did not receive your email and resend it. Make sure to include your name and the course name and meeting time.

**Grading Policies**

****Assessments****

Exams (40%)

There will be two exams in this course. The course will be divided into two units, with an exam after each. Students should bring a number-two pencil on the dates of the exams. The examinations will be timed, or in other words, limited in duration.

The second exam will take place during Final Exam Week. Failure to take the Final will result in a “0” for the exam.

Assignment (30%)

Research Assignment (15%)

Writing for the Humanities includes effectively evaluating resources. This is increasingly important in the current, digital landscape. There is more information available, but evaluating the quality and reliability of that information is vital. This assignment is designed to help improve your digital research skills.

Personal Humanities Assignment (15%)

More details on this assignment available on the Canvas site.

Discussions (10%)

Students will engage in course related discussion with their colleagues. On weeks where discussion assignments are posted students should post an initial post by Wednesday at 11:59pm, and respond meaningfully to two classmates by the end of the week.

Quizzes (20%)

Quizzes can be given in both the online and classroom environment. The quizzes may cover the assigned readings, or they may also cover in class material. While most quizzes will be announced prior to taking them, quizzes may also be given without advanced notice.

Note:

Students are expected to complete all assigned work. Any work note turned in will result in a “0” for the assignment.

**Grading Scale**

90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C 60-69 D 59 and below F

# **Course Policies**

## Policies Regarding Late Work:

Online courses such as this require a substantial time investment. Falling behind in the course severely and negatively affects a student’s ability to master the course material. Simply put if you fall behind in the course, you are unlikely to successfully complete the course. Therefore:

No late work will be accepted unless approved by the instructor.

A request to submit late work will not be automatically granted, however, communicating with the professor prior to the assignment’s due date will increase the likelihood of approval.

Late work, if accepted, will receive a late penalty. Under normal circumstances the late penalty will be 10 points per day late.

## Course Expectations and Tips:

Online courses are great. They offer an exciting opportunity to learn in a new environment. They are uniquely suited to encourage students to think critically, and all students to develop as self-learners. Online courses, however, require substantial investment by both the instructor and the student. Below are a list of expectations and tips I have for students, which, if followed, should help you be more successful in the course:

* Expectations
  + Students should plan to check their email daily.
    - Important information will be distributed through these channels.
    - You are responsible for information sent through these channels.
  + I recommend you work daily on this course.
    - A minimum of three days per week is expected.
  + Contact Blackboard Help for Support
    - The Help button is in the top, right-hand corner of your browser.
    - Your professor will be unable to provide help for technical issues related to Bb.
* Tips
  + Change your mindset about online learning. (If necessary.)
    - Online courses almost always require more time and effort for both students and instructors.
    - Plan to read more.
    - Plan to write more.
  + Set aside specific, regular times to work on this course.
  + Work during my virtual office hours.
    - If possible plan at least one work session a week during my virtual office hours. This allows you to contact me more quickly with course related issues.
  + Contact me if you are falling behind.
    - Contact me early if you are having issues. Perhaps we can work to resolve the issue.

## Policies Regarding Online Etiquette:

Formal:

Your writing for this course is expected to be formal in nature and academic in tone. You are permitted to speak in the first person, but contractions, grammatically errors, and common shortcuts used in texting or social media are not acceptable.

Thoughtful:

This course asks you to think critically. Do not simply repeat what someone else has said. Do not reply to online discussions with some variation of, “I agree with what he/she said.” Your writing should provide thoughtful critique, ask meaningful questions, disagree civility, and challenge unfounded assertions.

Civil:

You may at times disagree with me, or with another student. In fact, I expect you to. Your responses, however, should be civil. No personal attacks, or demeaning language will be tolerated.

**POLICY REGARDING WITHDRAWS**

**Mandatory Withdrawal**

During the first week of class students are responsible to log in and complete the syllabus quiz by the end of the day on Wednesday. Students who fail to do this are mandatorily removed from the class.

“A student who withdraws from class before the **withdrawal deadline of June 9th.** will receive a grade of “W.”. 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. An “I” grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur 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 get an A, B, C, D or F. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of F in the course. Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “F.”

Excepting the college’s mandatory withdrawal mentioned above, I will not withdraw any student for any reason; it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw themselves before the withdrawal deadline and to be aware of the date of the withdrawal deadline.

**Financial Aid and Withdraws**

Students should contact a financial aid counselor before withdrawing from a course. Withdrawing may affect financial aid, and some scholarships require students to repay any tuition for the course.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Each student is required to follow Valencia policy regarding academic honesty. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student’s individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states ‘group project.’

Academic dishonesty (including plagiarism, cheating on exams, or any attempt to present someone else’s work as your own) is taken very seriously. An incident of cheating or plagiarism will normally result on a score of “0” for the assignment. In some instances of plagiarism (especially when the infraction appears inadvertent) the professor may allow students to resubmit the assignment. This will be done on a case by case basis.

**SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY**

This syllabus is subject to change with notice to the students. Changes will not be made to move up exams or assignments thereby negatively impacting students, but readings, assignments, or exams may be moved due to our progression through the course.

**Additional Student Information/Resources**

**College Information and Resources**

**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](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.valenciacollege.edu%2Ftutoring&data=02%7C01%7Clshephard%40valenciacollege.edu%7Cd3a01797f62243f9719f08d83b031968%7C0e8866953d1741a88544135b0a92a47c%7C1%7C0%7C637324231776604261&sdata=0UCUb8FcpuLtQKZstaBT0RebVJTcx5sNfbkLxmm1paM%3D&reserved=0).  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.

**Hours of Operation:**

**Monday-Friday: 8 am – 10 pm**

**Saturday & Sunday: 9 am – 7 pm**

* **Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD)**
  + Students with disabilities 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 (West-SSB 102) determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.
  + The goal at the OSD is to open doors, remove barriers and assist you in any way the can. The key to success is matching your needs to the services provided. Please contact this office to discuss your individual needs.
  + The link to Valencia’s OSD website: http://www.valenciacollege.edu/osd
* **Testing Center – West**
  + Location: Building 11 Room 142, Phone: 407-582-1323   
    Please note!!! No tests are given out the last hour before closing—for example, if the Center closes at 9 p.m., the last test is given out at 8 p.m. Tests will be collected 5 minutes prior to closing.   
    See main website for additional Testing Center information on policies and regulations – http://valenciacollege.edu/learning-support/testing/
* **Writing Center – West**
  + Location: Building 5 Room 155A, Phone: 407-582-1812  
    The Writing Center is staffed with faculty-level English, Reading, and EAP instructors. The instructors go over essays and other writing assignments with students. Open to all students.   
    *Appointments are required.*See main website for additional Student Labs and Communication Center information on policies and regulations – http://valenciacollege.edu/labs/west.cfm
* **Baycare Health’s Student Assistance Program**:
  + 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 dealing with school, home or work.

*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 to students.