

Valencia College

**ONLINE: Middle Ages Humanities syllabus** (revised 1/2/2020)

HUM 2223

CRN# 22308

Spring 2020 H1 January 6-February 26, 2020

**Instructor:** Prof. Val Woldman

**Location and time:** online. Class begins on Monday. Each week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. **Mandatory online orientation due January 12—you must complete before you can access the course.**

**Phone:** (407) 582-6941

**Email:** [vwoldman@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:vwoldman@valenciacollege.edu)

**Office and office hours:** Room 219 Winter Park Campus

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| Monday | 12:45 p.m.-2:15 p.m. |
| Tuesday | 9:00-10:00 a.m. online and 12:45 p.m.-1:45 p.m. |
| Wednesday | 9:00- 10:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. |
| Thursday | 9:00-10:00 a.m. online and 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| Friday | 8:00-11:00 a.m. online |

**Course description:** Prerequisite: ENC 1101 or 1101H. Integrated examination of dominant ideas in Western culture expressed in art, literature, music, philosophy and religion. Covers period from late Roman Empire through the Middle Ages, emphasizing development and historical influence of Christianity. Students must demonstrate college-level writing skills through multiple assignments. Minimum grade of C required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirement. 3 credit hours.

# Textbooks:

* You are **not** required to purchase a textbook for this course. All readings and video links are available in an E-textbook I created through the Valencia Library. This E-textbook contains tabs with each of the eight units, with links to readings and videos on each topic. The E-textbook is available online through Valencia Library at <http://libguides.valenciacollege.edu/roman_medieval>
* Medieval movie rental (through Valencia library or video rental service like Netflix)
* You may want to purchase a paperback copy of *The Bhagavad Gita, The Dhammapada, Arabian Nights, The Inferno, Canterbury Tales.* All texts are available for free electronically, but some students prefer a hard copy of longer text.
* You will need access to a web cam or a SmartPhone/tablet with a camera to record one introduction video.

# Canvas component:

This is a completely online course. You will access class through Canvas <https://online.valenciacollege.edu/>, completing course readings, watching course videos, and completing assignments and quizzes.

# Major Topics:

* Critical/Historical analysis of religious texts of Judaism, Christianity & Islam and the subsequent development and interaction of these religious traditions.
* Analysis of Classical and Medieval Christian aesthetics
* Multiple factors leading to the fall of the Roman Empire
* Medieval social/cultural institutions: monasticism, feudalism, chivalry, guilds, towns, universities, etc.
* Medieval literature: *Beowulf, Song of Roland, Gawain & the Greene Knight, Tristan & Isolde, Canterbury Tales, Divine Comedy*
* Popular piety and its expressions

**Learning Outcomes:**

* Analyze and interpret works of art, literature, religion, philosophy, and other primary source texts in historical context.
* Understand the factors and forces that shaped medieval culture.
* Evaluate the lasting historical significance of the medieval era.
* Appreciate the diverse achievements and traditions of global civilizations.

This is a Gordon Rule course and contains several college-level writing assignments.

# 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 will be 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 withdrawal deadline, students with an absence of more than 7 days will receive the final grade that is earned according to the course grading policy.

In order to be successful in a short, online class you must keep up with the weekly deadlines. You should login a minimum of two days per week and plan to dedicate 12 hours a week total to class work (see my notes on Study Strategies).

**Required Attendance Activity: Students must complete the mandatory course orientation quiz with a score of 100% to access the course. If you do not login and complete the orientation by 1/12 you will be withdrawn from the course as a no-show.**

### **COLLEGE POLICIES**

# **No Show Policy**

Class attendance is required for face-to-face classes beginning with the first class meeting. If you do not attend the first class meeting, you may 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.”

# **Withdrawal Policy**

The withdrawal deadline is 2/8/19 to receive a W.

Per [Valencia policy](http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/academicpoliciesprocedures/courseattemptscoursewithdrawal/) a student who withdraws from class before the established deadline for a particular term will receive a grade of “W. A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline.

A faculty member **will**withdraw a student up to the withdrawal deadline for violation of the class attendance policy. A student who is withdrawn by faculty for violation of the class attendance policy will receive a grade of “W”. After the withdrawal deadline, faculty will not withdraw a student and the student will receive the grade earned at the end of the course. Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of “F.” If you do not intend to complete the course, you must withdraw yourself prior to the withdrawal date.

# **College Student Conduct Policy**

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 that contributes positively to Valencia’s learning community and that does not impair, interfere with, or obstruct the orderly conduct, processes, and functions of the college as described in the [Student Code of Conduct](http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-03-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf).

# **Academic Honesty**

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia College. [Academic dishonesty](http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-11-Academic-Dishonesty.pdf) includes, but is not limited to, acts or attempted acts of plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, facilitating academic dishonesty, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the students' individual thoughts, research, and self-expression. Whenever a student uses ideas, wording, or organization from another source, the source shall be appropriately acknowledged. If a student is caught submitting plagiarized work a first offense will result in a zero score on the assignment, a second offense will result in a class grade of F.

Students are responsible for ensuring that assignments are uploaded in the correct file and format by the due date. Assignments re-submitted after the due date may not be accepted or may be assessed a late penalty.

You should not share your Valencia username and password with anyone. If someone other than the student who is enrolled in the course (you) logs into your account, it is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

# **Students with Disabilities**

Valencia is committed to ensuring that all of 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.

### **COLLEGE LINKS**

#### [College Catalog](http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/)

#### [Valencia Policy Manual](http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/)

#### [Student Handbook](http://valenciacollege.edu/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf)

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

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

# Grading:

The following grading scale will be used:

A = 90 – 100 %

B = 80 – 89.9 %

C = 70 – 79.9 %

D = 60 – 69.9 %

F = 0 – 59.9 %

I will 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.

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 twice per week. I encourage you to work ahead; all quizzes are available beginning at the start of class.

# Late Work/Makeup Policy:

Assignments should be turned in on time. A 24-hour grace period will be allowed for turning in late assignments— grades on assignments turned in during the grace period will be reduced by 10%. No assignments will be accepted more than 24 hours late except in rare, documented emergencies. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are unable to complete assignments in the course due to an emergency.

**Course Components:**

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|  | **Papers: Choose 3 (one of the three must be the Dhammapada paper or the Question paper)** | **Points** | **Due Date** |
| choose at least one | Paper on *The Dhammapada* (mandatory) | 100 | Sunday, 1/19 |
| Paper on religious traditions questions *(mandatory if you did not submit Paper 1)* | 100 | Sunday, 1/26 |
|  | Christian iconography paper | 100 | Sunday, 2/2 |
|  | *Canterbury Tales* paper | 100 | Sunday, 2/9 |
|  | Modern *Inferno* paper | 100 | Sunday, 2/16 |
|  | Modern *Everyman* paper or Modern morality play or Medieval movie review | 100 | Sunday, 2/23 |

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| **Other assignments** |  |  |
| Class discussion (6 @25 points each) | 150 | Weekly: due on Thursdays 11:59 p.m. |
| Video responses (5@ 50 points each) | 250 | Weekly- due on Sundays |
| Reading quizzes | 100 | Weekly- due on Sundays |
| Group discussion posts | 100 | Weekly |
| Final project | 100 | Wednesday 2/26 by 5:00 p.m. |

**Course writing assignments:** Every student is required to write three papers. Each paper is worth 100 points. Papers should be a minimum of 750 words, (no more than 1000 words), typed and double-spaced, in 12-point font, spell-checked. Papers will be spot-checked for originality; plagiarism (including copying and pasting without citation and copying the work of another student) **will not** be tolerated (see Academic Honesty policy below). Writing assignments must be submitted through Canvas under individual weekly units. Attached files should be compatible with Microsoft Word (if you use Pages or Open Office, please “save as” a .doc file). Please see the course calendar for the due dates. Students must write at least one of the first two papers (Dhammapada or Religious Traditions Question) and any two additional papers.

**Class Discussion:** A discussion prompt is required for each unit. Each question is worth 25 points, which includes your initial response plus thoughtful, college-level comments to two of your classmates’ posts. Your initial response should be 250 words or more (except for the Unit 4 discussion where your first post is a painting—in this case, your response to a classmate should be 250 words). Discussions are due on THURSDAYS and follow-up comments are due by the end of the week, Sunday.

**Video Reponses:** You are required to view five videos. Each video is approximately 45-60 minutes long. All videos are available through links in Canvas. Video responses should answer the question(s) completely, referencing information from the video and be at least 2-3 paragraphs long. Video responses are 50 points each.

**Reading quizzes:** After reading all of the required readings for each unit, you will take a multiple-choice reading quiz on the content. The quizzes are timed, so make sure you have completed the reading before you take the quiz. You may take each quiz twice (the highest score will count). Quizzes are available from the beginning of the course until the due date. You may take a quiz early, but you may not take a quiz late. Please do not ask me to reopen a quiz, as I cannot open a quiz for an individual student. Plan ahead!

**Final exam:** Instead of a final exam, a final *project* will be due on the last day of class. Each group member should contribute to the final project group discussion boards throughout the course, but the final projects will be submitted by each student individually. You are required to sign up for a group by the end of Week 1 and complete group discussion threadsby the end of Week 2. Your final project grade will consist of 100 points you earned individually and 100 points earned through the group discussion boards.

**Final Grades:** The course consists of 1000 points total. You can calculate your final grade by dividing your total points by 10.

# Study strategies:

* This is a fast-paced course. Semester-long courses usually consist of 45 hours of classroom time plus an additional 45-90 hours of study/writing/reading time *per course*. In a fifteen-week semester, this means you will spend between 6-9 hours going to class, studying, and completing assignments each week. In a six-week or eight-week online class, you should still expect to spend 45 hours “in class” and 45+ hours studying and completing assignments. This translates to about **11-15 hours per week** that you will need to be successful. If you don’t plan to dedicate this much time to the class, you might consider dropping this course and taking a more leisurely 15-week course.
* Read through the syllabus carefully. Keep up with the deadlines. Start by reading the unit introduction, and then view/print the “terms to know” or study guides for each chapter. These are not required, but will be helpful. Next, read the required readings for the unit, using the study guides to define key terms. View the video if there is one assigned and post your video response immediately.
* **Since discussion questions are due on Thursdays, answer the discussion first**. Take your reading quiz after you have read all of the assigned readings for that unit. Take note of the questions you missed. Go back over your notes and the readings to find the correct answers. You may take the quiz a second time if you want to improve your score. Quizzes are only worth 10 or 15 points each, so do your best but don’t worry about missing a few questions.
* Don’t neglect the three writing assignments which are worth 100 points each. You can work ahead on these, **but you can’t submit them late**.

***Disclaimer:*** *The course calendar may be subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.Please print it out and use it as a week-by-week guide to assignments and due dates.*

**Course Calendar: HUM 2223 Online Spring 2020 H1**

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| **Week** | **Unit** | **Assignments due on Sundays except for initial discussion posts are due on Thursdays.** |
| **1**  **1/6-1/12** | **Unit 1: Roman Empire** | * **Complete online orientation quiz with a score of 100% to access the course.** * Unit 1 Reading Quiz * Unit 1 Discussion: Which Roman Emperor are You? * Post “Getting to Know You” VIDEO introduction in group discussion * Begin readings for next week. Start working on your first paper. |
| **2**  **1/13-1/19** | **Unit 2: The Medieval East** | * Unit 2 Reading Quiz * Unit 2 Discussion * Group discussion post: Topic Background * Video response 1: Bhagavad Gita (in E-textbook under Unit 2, Hinduism) * **Dhammapada paper due Sunday (must do either this one or the religious traditions paper next week—you can also do both)** |
| **3**  **1/20-1/26** | **Unit 3: Christianity and Islam** | * Unit 3 Reading Quiz * Unit 3 Discussion * Group discussion post: Art/Sculpture * Video response 2: Christianity in the 3rd and 4th centuries * **Religious traditions questionpaper due Sunday (must do this paper if you did not submit the Dhammapada paper last week, otherwise it is optional – three papers are required total** |
| **4**  **1/27-2/2** | **Unit 4: Medieval Art** | * Unit 4 Reading Quiz * Unit 4 Discussion * **Christian iconography paper due Sunday (optional—you must submit three papers total)** * Video response 3: Arabian Night (in E-textbook under Unit 4, Islamic Art) |
| **5**  **2/3-2/9** | **Unit 5: Medieval Life**  **and**  **Unit 6: Medieval Architecture** | * *Check “current grade in class” under My Grades in Canvas for your midterm progress* * Unit 5 Reading Quiz * (no discussion for Unit 5) * Unit 6 Reading Quiz * Unit 6 Discussion * ***Canterbury Tales* Paper due Sunday (optional—you must submit three papers total** * Group discussion post: Architecture |
| **6**  **2/10-2/16** | **Unit 7: The Medieval Mind** | * Unit 7 Reading Quiz * Unit 7 Discussion * **Modern Inferno paper due Sunday, (optional—you must submit three papers total)** * Video response 4: The Plague in Tuscany * Group discussion post: Philosophy/Literature * Complete “Student Feedback on Instruction” survey |
| **7**  **2/17-2/23** | **Unit 8: Medieval Music and Drama** | * Unit 8 Reading Quiz * Unit 8 Discussion * Video response 5: From Sanctuary to Stage * Group discussion post: Music/Drama * **Modern *Everyman* paper or Modern Morality play or Medieval movie review due Sunday (optional—you must submit three papers total)** |
| **2/24-2/26** | **Final project** | Final project due 2/26 by 5:00 p.m. |