

# Introduction to Humanities

East Campus, Building 8, Room 245 • Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:15 AM

Professor Will Adams • [Wadams5@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:Wadams5@valenciacollege.edu)

## Course Description

Introduction to Humanities is a three-credit hour course that familiarizes the student with the world of humanities. Students will explore the essential concepts, historical evolution, and fundamental nature of art, religion, architecture, music, language, politics, and philosophy.

These concepts will be presented and dissected by the professor so that the student will understand how they continue to impact the contemporary world.

## Course Objectives

- To understand the continuation and evolution of the human experience by thinking critically about humanity's artistic, cultural, and intellectual development.
- To learn of diverse civilizations' contributions to the spheres of politics, religion, and art; as well as to analyze how and why those contributions helped shape the contemporary world.
- To learn skills essential to critical thinking and synthesis of thought by carrying out scholarly research and authoring thoughtful essays.
- To analyze the philosophical development of humankind as a civilization and how that may apply to today's societal ideals.

## Recommended Textbook

Gloria K. Fiero, *Landmarks in Humanities*  
Additional readings as assigned by instructor

## Evaluation Formula

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>1. Attendance &amp; Class Participation</b>   | <b>30%</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Attendance is required.</li><li>▪ Attendance will be taken at the <u>beginning</u> of each class meeting, and count as part of the attendance &amp; class participation grade.</li><li>▪ Please be aware that, under Valencia's Attendance Policy, there is no such thing as an "excused absence".</li></ul> |            |

- After 4 missed classes, a student may be withdrawn for non-attendance, at the instructor's discretion.

## 2. In-Class Assignments, Activities, Quizzes & Homework 30%

- Throughout the term, we will have various in-class assignments and activities.
- Quizzes may be given to determine student retention of lecture or reading material at any time.
- Additionally, homework will be assigned to deepen your understanding of in-class discussions.

## 3. Examinations 40%

- Four long-form examinations will be administered.
- Examinations will not be cumulative in their subject matter.
- You will be given a study guide for exams, at the instructor's discretion.

### Grading Scale

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| 100 – 90% | = A |
| 89 – 80%  | = B |
| 79 – 70%  | = C |
| 69 – 60%  | = D |
| 59 – 0%   | = F |

### Schedule of Class Meetings

| DATES  |                  | CLASS AGENDA, DUE DATES & ASSIGNMENTS  |
|--------|------------------|--|
| Week 1 | Tuesday<br>8/24  | Lecture: Introduce class<br>Activity: Distribute & discuss syllabus<br>Assigned on Canvas: Proust Questionnaire homework                 |
|        | Thursday<br>8/26 | Lecture: Connecting with the Cosmos: Art of the Stone Age<br>Activity: Cave art activity<br>Due on Canvas: Proust Questionnaire homework |
| Week 2 | Tuesday<br>8/31  | Lecture: What the Water Gave Us: Ancient Mesopotamia & The Invention of Writing lecture<br>Activity: Translation in-class activity.      |
|        | Thursday<br>9/2  | Lecture: Egyptian Mythology  |
| Week 3 | Tuesday<br>9/7   | Lecture: Architecture of the Afterlife: Embalming & Tombs in Ancient Egypt<br>Assigned on Canvas: Sarcophagus Lid homework               |
|        | Thursday<br>9/9  | Lecture: Enthroned Upon Olympus: The Mythology of Ancient Greece<br>Due in Class: Sarcophagus Lid homework                               |

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|---------|-------------------|---|
| Week 4  | Tuesday<br>9/14   | Lecture: For Love of Wisdom: Ancient Greek Philosophy   |
|         | Thursday<br>9/16  | <b>EXAM #1 in class at 8:30 AM EST</b>  |
| Week 5  | Tuesday<br>9/21   | Lecture: The Roman Republic & What Is Satire?   |
|         | Thursday<br>9/23  | Lecture: The Byzantine Era: An Empire Evolves   |
| Week 6  | Tuesday<br>9/28   | Lecture: The Calm Before the Storm: Feudalism, The Manor, & Medieval Cities   |
|         | Thursday<br>9/30  | Lecture: Fooling the Eye: Brunelleschi, Alberti, & Linear Perspective<br>Activity: Two-point perspective drawing activity<br>Assigned on Canvas: Two-point perspective homework |
| Week 7  | Tuesday<br>10/5   | Lecture: Will in the World: Shakespeare & Elizabethan Theatre<br>Due <u>in Class</u> : Two-point perspective homework   |
|         | Thursday<br>10/7  | Lecture: The Noble Stillness: Baroque Still-Life Painting<br>Assigned on Canvas: Vanitas still-life homework  |
| Week 8  | Tuesday<br>10/12  | Lecture: The Palace of Versailles: Seat of an Absolute Monarch<br>Due <u>in Class</u> : Vanitas still-life homework   |
|         | Thursday<br>10/14 | <b>EXAM #2 in class at 8:30 AM EST</b>  |
| Week 9  | Tuesday<br>10/19  | Lecture: The Triumph of Liberty: The Enlightenment, Modern Democracy, and the American & French Revolutions   |
|         | Thursday<br>10/21 | Lecture: The Art of Romanticism   |
| Week 10 | Tuesday<br>10/26  | Lecture: The Art of Impressionism   |
|         | Thursday<br>10/28 | Lecture: The Analytical Life of Sigmund Freud   |
| Week 11 | Tuesday<br>11/2   | Lecture: A Delicate Balance: The Legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright<br>Activity: Jenga balancing & teamwork activity  |
|         | Thursday<br>11/4  | Lecture: What Is Film Noir?   |
| Week 12 | Tuesday<br>11/9   | Film: <i>Casablanca</i><br>In-Class Assignment: <i>Casablanca</i> film response   |
|         | Thursday<br>11/11 | <b>EXAM #3 – On Canvas (Due by 11:59 PM EST on Sunday, 11/14)</b>   |
| Week 13 | Tuesday<br>11/16  | Film: <i>Casablanca</i><br>In-Class Assignment: <i>Casablanca</i> film response<br>Due <u>in Class</u> : <i>Casablanca</i> film response  |
|         | Thursday<br>11/18 | Lecture: The Scene Inside: Abstract Expressionism   |
| Week    | Tuesday           | Lecture: POP! Goes the World  |

|            |                   |   |
|------------|-------------------|---|
| 14         | 11/23             | Assigned on Canvas: Pop art endangered species homework   |
|            | Thursday<br>11/25 | THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASS   |
| Week<br>15 | Tuesday<br>11/30  | <b>Due in Class:</b> Pop art endangered species homework<br><b>Lecture:</b> We Shall Not Be Moved: Civil Disobedience & The Civil Rights Movement |
|            | Thursday<br>12/2  | <b>Lecture:</b> We Don't Need Another Hero: The Art of Feminism   |
| Week<br>16 | Tuesday<br>12/7   | EXAM #4 in class at <u>10:00 AM EST</u>   |

## Late Work and Makeup Policy

- Late work will be accepted only with the instructor's explicit consent.
- The final exam must be taken on the date published for final exams.

## Extra Credit Policy

- Extra credit may be earned by writing more than the required number of pages for any written assignment. Extra credit for additional written content will be given up to 15% of the assignment's total point value (i.e. 15 points for a 100-point assignment).
- No other extra credit opportunities will be available.

## Guidelines for Written Work

- All typed, submitted work should be set in Arial 12-point font, with double spacing and standard 1" page margins.
- Additionally, each written assignment should begin with the following header, placed at the top, left side of the first page:

Your First & Last Name  
HUM1020 – 10:00 AM  
Prof. Will Adams  
Assignment Due Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

- Minimum page totals for any written assignment require that the written page be filled in its entirety to count as one page.
- In other words, if a written assignment requires 2 pages, but the student only writes 1.5, the student will not earn all possible points for the assignment.

## Class Conduct

Conduct yourselves with maturity and respect for others.

## Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is intellectual theft and will not be tolerated. Presentation of the ideas and words of others as if they are your own work constitutes plagiarism. Direct use of another author's words or ideas, as well as paraphrasing must be cited. Plagiarism in any work will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.

## Students with Disabilities

- Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a notification from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class.
- The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.

## Computer and Equipment Use Policy

- Use of computers in the Business, IT, and Public Service classrooms at Valencia
- Community College is restricted to those activities designated by the instructor to enhance the class materials. Any other use is strictly forbidden. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to:
  - Use of computer to send E-mail or access Internet sites not specifically assigned in class.
  - Use of computer for job, internship, homework or other activities not assigned in class.
  - Modifying any hardware or software system configuration or setting.
  - Use of computers in the departmental open lab is limited to those activities involved with preparing homework or coursework in this department and is subject to the same restriction as listed above.
- Computer use is remotely monitored; any student using computers inappropriately may be subject to dismissal from class or banishment from the lab. Subsequent offense may be sent to the campus administration for further disciplinary action.

## COVID Guidelines

Throughout the COVID pandemic, Valencia College has been primarily focused on the health and well-being of its students and faculty and staff. This continues to be our priority as we return to more face-to-face classes, and college policy continues to be guided by science and the guidelines issued by the CDC and our partners at Orlando Health. I urge all students who can do so to get vaccinated and encourage friends and family to do so as well.

Should you become ill with COVID, please inform me and your professors and coworkers both for our safety, and the safety of our Valencia community. I will do what I can to assist you in successfully completing our coursework. Please inform our COVID liaison Tanya Mahan ([COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu)) as well, so she can support you in this process. We are in this together! For more information, please consult: <https://valenciacollege.edu/about/coronavirus/>.

## Learning Support Statement

Learning Support Services provides students with academic support through distance tutoring, face to face tutoring at the campuses, writing consultations, library services, and resources. Tutoring is offered in most academic disciplines including math, science, foreign languages, English for academic purposes (EAP), computer programming and writing assistance for any course. Assistance with library research can be accessed online through Atlas or the tutoring LibGuide.

For more information on how to access tutoring and library research assistance, please visit the college-wide Learning Support Services LibGuide at: [www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring](http://www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring)  
Please note: 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)

## Disclaimer

This outline may be altered, at the instructor's discretion, during the course of the term. It is the responsibility of the student to make any adjustments as announced.