VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Late Roman and Medieval Humanities
HUM 2223 CRN 34367 & CRN 35132

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Office & Office Hours: by appointment
Course is completely online.

“Education is not received. It is achieved.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Integrated examination of dominant ideas in Western culture expressed in art, literature, music, philosophy and religion. Covers period from late Roman Empire through Middle Ages, emphasizing development and historical influence of Christianity. Gordon Rule course in which the student is required to demonstrate college-level writing skills through multiple writing assignments. Minimum grade of C required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirement.

PREREQUISITE:
Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C in ENC 1101 or ENC 1101H or IDH 1110.

NOTE: Any student found to lack this prerequisite will be withdrawn from the course without credit or tuition refund.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Valencia has defined four interrelated core competencies (Value, Think, Communicate, Act) that are essential for your success as a citizen of the world community. This humanities course is designed to challenge and support you in achieving specific learning outcomes that tie the humanities to your success and well-being.

- Interpret significant works of art, literature, philosophy, or religion of the 18th and 19th century.
- Trace the historical development of an artistic or intellectual element across some part of the 18th and 19th century.
- Integrate the principle artistic, philosophical, and historical elements of a period or phenomenon.
- Argue a point of view, position, or perspective regarding an issue in the humanities.
- Show sensitivity toward different perspectives and cultures.
- Participate in the cultural life of the community.
- Articulate connections between the humanities and my life.
- Collaborate to explore an issue or solve a problem in the humanities.
- Employ effective strategies for learning in the humanities.

The work of this course—reading, writing, classroom lecture and discussion, group work, and other learning activities—is designed to help you develop your mastery of these core competencies. Because of what you learn in this course, you should be better able to: engage in intelligent and informed dialogue about issues of culture and value in your life; seek experiences that enhance the pleasure and meaning that you find in your life; seek truth with commitment, open-mindedness, and critical tolerance for the beliefs of others and yourself.
TEXTBOOKS

REQUIREMENTS
- See the *Style Sheet* for written requirements.
- **Intellectual honesty** – Students are required to submit their own work. You may quote the writings of others to *illustrate* your own ideas so long as you provide citation information/attribution. You may NOT reproduce material from the Internet and or any other source and submit it as your own. Students whose work is suspected of plagiarism will have that work returned to them so they can properly cite their sources. If the work is a confirmed case of plagiarism, the assignment will be returned for no credit. See *Special Note on Plagiarizing & Academic Dishonesty.*
- **Orientation** – your orientation is the completion of the first week’s assignments. This is your Welcome Module, Practice Quiz, Practice Submission, and Welcome Post.
- **All written work (assignments) & tests will be submitted through Blackboard.** You will complete a practice submission and practice quiz during the first week in the course to make sure everyone understands how to do this. Your Welcome Module has more information and handouts.
- **Late work** – Assignments need to be submitted at the time specified on the individual assignments. For every day that an assignment is late, it drops a letter grade. Each assignment has a cut off date of 6 days, except in the case of extreme emergencies (such as hospitalization, death in the family, with appropriate documentation). No assignment will be accepted after the 6th day. *Assignments will not be accepted after the final day of class (July 30th).* You have the course schedule from the beginning of the semester with all your assignments on it. Please *do not wait* until the last minute to try to turn something in. Computer problems are not an excuse for late work. See the *Special Note on Computers.*
- **Keep in mind that this course has been condensed from an entire semester into 8 weeks and may require additional effort to maximize your experience.**

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION
Your success in the class depends on your participation and interaction with this course through Blackboard. This course is based on class discussion, participation, and interaction. I expect you to login to Blackboard **three times (3)** a week to participate in discussions, check assignments, take quizzes and work with fellow students.

While this course is an online course, there is still about **4 hours of work that needs to be completed each week.** The beauty of an online course is that you can complete it at 3
o’clock in the morning in your pajamas if you like, but there is still work to be done (readings in your text, online course modules, assignments, quizzes, discussion, group work, etc). You will have the opportunity to work at least two weeks ahead but you must still respond to online posts from other students. I want everyone to feel like this is a journey with others, not just a solitary trip. We (me included) will learn so much from everyone else through the discussion boards and assignments, it is vital that you participate. **If you do not login to Blackboard by June 25th, 2011 at 12pm you will be considered a “no show.”**

Please remember to keep your comments respectful, clean and acceptable, as if you were in a traditional face to face classroom. See the Reminders for an Online Course Handout.

“Focus on the journey, not the destination. Joy is found not in finishing an activity but in doing it.”

~ Greg Anderson ~

**COURSE COMPONENTS:**

**TESTS (25% total):**
There will be 2 tests. Each test will have multiple choice questions, matching, multiple response, and true false. Your tests will be taken using Blackboard. You will complete a practice quiz so you are familiar with the process. Since your tests are online they are open notes, however, they are timed so you do have to study for them.

“I didn’t fail the test, I just found 100 ways to do it wrong” ~ Ben Franklin ~

*There will be NO make up exams. Your tests are available online for at least 1 week. If you do not take it in the time allotted I will not reset the test except in extreme emergencies (for example, death in the family during exam availability, hospitalization during exam availability, hurricanes. I will need proper documentation to reset a test). *

**DISCUSSION WORKSHEETS (20% total):**
There are 2 primary source worksheets. These are critical thinking prompts based on the readings from the period. After doing the assigned reading, type your responses to the critical thinking prompts, you do not have to answer all of them. I want your opinion of the piece and its impact on you. These will be turned in through Blackboard and need to be a minimum of **250 words** and follow your Style Sheet.

“Write to be understood, speak to be heard, read to grow...” ~ Powell ~

**MOVIE LOG (15%)**
Once you have picked a movie from the approved list of films on the Medieval Movie Handout, you will watch the film and then answer the questions in the Medieval Movie Log. This is a way for you to critically examine the film and connections to the Medieval period. These will be turned in through Blackboard and will follow your Style Sheet.

“Every time I got to the movies, it is magic, no matter what the film is about.” ~ Steven Spielberg ~
ONLINE PROJECTS (35%)
There are a variety of projects that will be done throughout the class to allow you to critically think about topics in a way other than traditional paper writing.

"Everything is simpler than you think and at the same time more complex than you imagine" — Goethe —

- **Discussion Board Post Questions (DBPQs)** — There are **nine (9)** discussion board post questions in this course. You only need to complete **seven (7)** of them, so you can skip **two (2)** questions if you would like to. These are guided questions based on articles or course readings that will provide the bulk of our “classroom” discussion. You will need to write a thoughtful response to the question. Feel free to include outside references for your answer (outside of your text and the module/section reading) but be sure to cite. You will be graded on your thoroughness and critical examination of the topic. Each post tells you specifically what you will be graded on.

- **Group Project Work** — This is an opportunity for you to get to know a couple of your other students really well and foster a group feeling to the online classroom environment. This is not meant as torture or to penalize you in any way if other members of your group do not do the work. These are just fun postings and other enhancements to the general class. See the Group Project Work Handout for more information. There are two group projects in this course.

- **Modules** — These are my lectures for the course. They form the basis of the class. They will cover in depth a concept that this course highlights. When I ask you to complete a module, I am asking you to thoroughly read it (just as you would if it was a lecture – take notes, print it out, whatever study method works well for you). Utilize all the links provided in the modules (they are not just for my benefit, but will enhance your learning experience). Your tests will contain information from these modules.

  "Work and play are words used to describe the same thing under differing conditions" — Mark Twain —

PARTICIPATION & OTHER (5% total):
As stated earlier, your participation is an essential element to this class. This portion of your grade will include the frequency and completeness of your posts, class work, and module (section) completion. Any other assignments will fall under this heading.

"The world is run by those who show up."
~Anonymous~

GRADING SCALE:
The class is on a percentage system with:
90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
59% and below = F

You can check your grade at any point during the semester at http://www.mygradebook.com. The login information will be mailed to your Atlas account. I will grade & post those grades (on Blackboard and mygradebook.com) about 1 and a half weeks after the date they are due, unless otherwise noted. Please give me that time; I will need to have the time to grade your projects and discussions, as I teach more than one class.

BLACKBOARD & ATLAS POLICY
In order to minimize the risk of computer-virus transfers, I prefer to communicate with students via the student's Atlas or Blackboard account.

I check my email once a day Monday through Friday (normally before 8pm in the evening). I check once over the weekend. I will respond as promptly as possible to your email. I check my Atlas and Blackboard email at the same time please send an email to only one of the two, not to both. If you send a message to my Atlas account, please include the course name and section in your subject line (I get a lot of spam and cannot guarantee that your email will not be deleted if the subject is not clearly from a student).

If you are experiencing technical difficulties (anything from a document not loading properly to issues logging in) with WebCT please contact the help desk at webcthelp@valenciacc.edu or by calling (407) 582-5600 (available 24/7). If you are having difficulties with Atlas, please contact (407) 582-5444. I can ONLY help with content not with technical issues.

*Please regularly check your atlas account for excessive absence notices, grade warnings, instructor emails, etc. *

* Please check Blackboard at least three times a week to make sure you are up to date on all course information. Remember, this is a required part of your grade.*

“I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.”
~Albert Einstein. ~

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT COMPUTERS
Even though computers and word-processing software are marvelous time and energy-saving devices, they can and do cause problems with the production of your documents. Please be aware that a broken or ill-functioning computer, or the inability to retrieve, produce or submit your assignments from a computer will not be accepted as a valid excuse for a document that is submitted late. I advise you to save all your documents to both a CD, or a flash drive and your
hard drive. I highly recommend that you submit items earlier than the deadline, waiting until the last minute and having a technical problem will not excuse you from a test, quiz, project, or paper.

SPECIAL NOTE ON PLAGIARIZING:
All plagiarized homework assignments or essays, whether intentional or unintentional, will receive a “0”. You are responsible for making sure that your work is not plagiarized. Oversight on your part will not be accepted as an excuse for plagiarism. All students need to complete the plagiarism test that is available at the following website. You can retake the test until you pass with a perfect score. Once you pass the plagiarism test, you will be allowed to print out a certificate stating that you passed the test. You need to print, sign, and turn this certificate in to the professor.
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html

This is due by July 16th at 8:30pm. You can turn it in earlier at any point in the semester. You need to send me the certificate (scan it and email it or copy and paste and email, whatever works for you).

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CLASS
My goal is for every student registered for this course to finish successfully. If you find that you cannot meet the challenges of the course, for whatever reasons, it is important for you to formally withdraw from the course. To receive a W, you must withdraw before the withdrawal deadline.

Withdrawal Deadline: July 22nd, 2011.

Students who do not maintain regular attendance may be withdrawn by the professor after notification. Attendance for online classes may be determined by participation in activities such as discussions, submitting essays, email responses, quizzes, etc.

Refer to the Student Handbook at http://valenciacc.edu/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf for additional issues related to withdrawal.

Students will be informed electronically via Atlas or Blackboard, if the student accumulates absences or missing assignments, discussions, or group work that threaten his or her academic progress or standing in the class. The professor may withdraw the student if the student continues to be absent or miss assignments to the point that further enrollment in a course appears to be of little value.

In this course, if you fail to complete three assignments (discussions (except for your two freebies), assignments in the assignments tab, email responses, tests, or group work) you will receive a warning email. After five missed assignments, you will be withdrawn.

It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with his or her professor regarding any absences/missing assignments. Failure to do so in a timely manner may put the student at risk of being withdrawn as indicated in the attendance policy on the professor’s syllabus.

STUDENT CONDUCT
Valencia Community College is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and learning as well as the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia Community College, a
student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. For further detail, refer to the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook. Respect is a necessary part of this class, disrespect to the instructor or fellow students will not be tolerated. The full policy is available in your student handbook.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (Policy Number: 6Hx28:10-16)**

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia Community College. 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.

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.

Students shall take special notice that the assignment of course grades is the responsibility of the students’ individual professor. When the professor has reason to believe that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred, and before sanctions are imposed, the student shall be given informal notice and an opportunity to be heard by the professor. Any student determined by the professor to have been guilty of engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be liable to a range of academic penalties as determined by the professor which may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project; a reduction in the course grade; or a grade of “F” in the course. At the option of the professor, the campus provost may be furnished with written notification of the occurrence and the action taken. If such written notice is given, a copy shall be provided to the student.

Students guilty of engaging in a gross or flagrant act of academic dishonesty or repeated instances of academic dishonesty shall also be subject to administrative and/or disciplinary penalties which may include warning, probation, suspension and/or expulsion from the College.

The student may appeal action taken by the professor under the provisions of either Policy 6Hx28:10-13 or 6Hx28:10-15 as determined by the nature of the action taken.

**NOTE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

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 two weeks of class. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities (Winter Park Campus, Room 212, 407/582-6887).

*We ask that you follow college policy relating to children on campus. Please make arrangements for childcare outside of classrooms or labs. *

*Please make note of evacuation route from your classroom in case of emergency. Interpret all audible alarms as valid and act accordingly.

**No Show Status**

Class attendance is required beginning the first week of the term, this will be determined by taking of the practice quiz, completing the practice submission, the Welcome Post, and your first logging in to Blackboard. **If you do not attend class during the first week (by June 25th, 2011), you may be withdrawn from the class as a "no show".** In this event you will be billed for the class and a "W" will appear on your transcript for the course.

**NOTE:** The Course Schedule may be altered, at the professor’s discretion, during the course of the semester. Students are responsible for informing themselves of changes
announced in class. A copy of the syllabus will be available online. If you lose it, the
information is still your responsibility, make sure you get another copy.

“Education is learning what you didn’t even know you didn’t know.”
~ Daniel J. Boorstin ~