

Syllabus: Rhetoric II

Course Description

In Rhetoric II, students build upon their knowledge of classical rhetoric by learning its genres and developing spoken and written delivery. Students will perfect the power of rhetoric, followed by skill development in special topics and the specific genres of rhetoric. Developing skillful, talented rhetoricians is a careful process that requires robust preparation and much opportunity for application of the skills previously developed in Rhetoric I. Class size is limited to 12 to allow for greater presentation time and individual attention. Specifically, students will learn to (1) observe rhetorical situations and assess which persuasive strategies are best suited, (2) orient themselves to respective scenarios, given rhetorical goals, (3) decide which course of action is wise, and (4) act with precision. Homework will average approximately 3 hours weekly.

Attendance and Participation

Both attendance and participation are vital parts of this course; therefore, students are required to attend class sessions and participate actively in discussions. Students are expected to view archives of any missed classes, and are responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments.

Students will be given quarterly grades for both participation and attendance:

- Fifteen percent of the final grade will be attributed to *relevant class participation*. This includes raising one's hand, commenting regularly via microphone/webcam, and using the chat box regularly to contribute to the academic conversation.
- Five percent of the final grade will be attributed to *class attendance*. Being present, being on time, and readiness for class are all factors to be considered in the class attendance grade. *Excused* absences will not detrimentally impact attendance grades.

Grading rubrics are located in the Course Documents folder in each course page.

Assignments & Exams

There are weekly reading assignments and presentation assignments, including rhetoric exercises. Students must have the capacity to video record and upload speeches to a course blog. Students are responsible to keep up with the reading for every class period.

Students will take a midterm and final exam. The exams at the end of each semester are cumulative for that semester only. All exams should be taken in one sitting and proctored by an adult. Unless directed by the teacher, students are not permitted to use any helps, books, notes or the Internet on any portion of exams. All exams are due at 11:55 PM ET on the date shown. Specific instructions will be provided by the instructor.

Evaluation

The final grade is determined on the following basis:

- Class Attendance 5%
- Relevant Class Participation 15%
- Homework 30%
- Presentations 20%
- Midterm/Final Assessment 30%

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will apply for all assignments and final grades.

100% – 90% = A; 89% - 80% = B; 79% - 70% = C; 69% - 60% = D; 59% - 50% = E; 49% - 40% = F. All grades are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Late Work

If a student fails to submit any assessment by the due date, it is considered "late."

- Assignments submitted 0-24 hours late will result in a 10 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 24-48 hours late will result in a 20 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 48-72 hours late will result in a 30 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments over 72 hours late will not be accepted and the student will receive a zero.
- Parent may request an extension from their child's teacher *prior to the due date* or in the case of an emergency.

While we love grace and the opportunity to exercise it, we also desire to instill a sound sense of responsibility in our students, hence these expectations pertaining to late work.

Exam/Test Retakes

Any student may retake a failed assessment (except quizzes), but can score no higher than 70% on the retake. Retakes must be submitted within one week of the returned, failed test. If the retake is not submitted within one week, the original failing grade will stand.

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating on any assignment is considered academic dishonesty. This includes plagiarism in any form. Cheating will be dealt with in the following manner:

- If a student is caught cheating, he will receive a zero on the assignment and will be placed on academic probation for the remainder of the school year.
- If the same student is caught cheating again, he will likely be expelled.
- No refunds will be granted for students who are expelled due to cheating.

- A Disciplinary Action Form will be submitted by the student's teacher for any instance of academic dishonesty.

Textbooks

The book needed for the class will be an ebook and will be loaded directly into the course page.

Rhetoric of Love, Vol 2

Course Calendar

See Course Assignment Sheet, located on course page, for class dates, breaks and all assignments and assessments. Class dates and breaks can also be found on the current academic year calendar.