English 309B: History of Rhetoric 2
English 330B: Sixteenth-Century Literature 2
Topic: Renaissance Rhetorical Culture

Section 1
Prof. Ken Graham
MW 11:30-12:50; ML 246
Winter 2017
HH 246; ex.32124
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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1-1:30; Wednesdays 4-5; or by appointment

Texts:
Thomas Wilson, *The Arte of Rhetorique* (Renascence Editions)
(https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/774/arte.pdf)
Aphthonius, *Progymnasmata* [Preliminary Exercises]
Erasmus and Martin Luther, *Discourse on Free Will* (Continuum)
William Shakespeare, *Othello* (Pelican)
William Shakespeare, *Coriolanus* (Pelican)
George Puttenham, *The Arte of English Poesie*
(http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/PutPoes.html)

Aims of the Course
This class will explore the relationship between rhetoric and culture in Renaissance Europe, paying particular attention to rhetoric’s significance for English literature during this period. We will see rhetorical culture as posing a set of questions about truth, language, and human nature, and as presenting a number of techniques for intellectual inquiry, self-presentation, and influencing an audience.

Methods and Requirements
While there will be some lecture, we will spend most class time discussing the readings, and regular contributions to the conversation will be expected from everyone. Graded work comprises:

1) Class participation. I will expect you to attend conscientiously and to participate in an informed and productive manner. Quality is generally more important than quantity, but I am impressed by a willingness to go out on a limb. I am also as interested in the courtesy and respect with which you listen and respond to what others say as in the sharpness of your own perceptions. Attendance and punctuality count: you can’t participate if you aren’t present. It is your responsibility to inform me promptly of the reasons for an absence if you wish it to be excused. **Weight = 10%**

2) Response papers. In these informal 2-page (~500 word) papers you will explore responses to a central question that interests you in your initial reading of each play. Depending on the nature of
the work, this question may be about the ideas expressed in the text or about the text’s form of expression. It may be primarily rhetorical or primarily literary in nature, or it may combine the two disciplines. Your papers should be focussed and should refer to specific words, arguments, or actions in the text, and they should demonstrate your understanding of the significance of the question you are considering to the reading assignment as a whole, but they need not argue or take a position. They are due at the start of class on the day a play first appears on the syllabus. You will receive one point for each satisfactory response paper you turn in on time, and a bonus of three points if you turn six or more in by the last class period. Response papers falling significantly below the 500-word requirement may not receive full credit. As with any written assignment, you must properly acknowledge all sources consulted. \textbf{Weight = 10\%}

3) A rhetoric exam, eighty minutes in length. This will be a closed-book exam on everything covered by February 6. \textbf{Weight = 25\%}

4) A formal essay on \textit{Othello} or \textit{Coriolanus}, 1800-2700 words in length. Late papers will be accepted without penalty only if prior permission has been granted. Otherwise, the penalty will be 2\% per day, including weekends. The full assignment is on page 4. \textbf{Weight = 30\%}

5) A poetry exam, eighty minutes in length. A week before this exam, I will assign three poems by Ben Jonson, one of which I will then choose for the exam. The exam will ask you to write a rhetorical analysis of the poem. \textbf{Weight = 25\%}

\textbf{Class Schedule}

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
Jan. & 4 & W \hspace{0.5cm} Introduction to the class \\
9 & M & Wilson, \textit{Arte of Rhetorique}, Book 1; \textbf{response \#1} \\
11 & W & Aphthonius, \textit{Progymnasmata} \\
16 & M & Erasmus, \textit{Praise of Folly}; \textbf{response \#2} \\
18 & W & Erasmus, \textit{Praise of Folly} \\
23 & M & Erasmus, \textit{The Free Will}; \textbf{response \#3} \\
25 & W & Luther, \textit{The Bondage of the Will} \\
30 & M & Castiglione, Book of the Courtier, 9-85; \textbf{response \#4} \\
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Feb. & 1 & W \hspace{0.5cm} Castiglione, Book of the Courtier, 147-153, 207-260 \\
6 & M & \textbf{Rhetoric Test} \\
8 & W & \textit{Othello}; \textbf{response \#5} \\
13 & M & \textit{Othello} \\
15 & W & \textit{Othello} \\
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\textbf{20-24} & Winter Study Period \\
\hline
Mar. & 1 & W \hspace{0.5cm} \textit{Coriolanus} \\
6 & M & \textit{Coriolanus}, \textbf{essays due 11:30 a.m.} \\
8 & W & Puttenham, \textit{Arte of English Poesie}, Book 3 \\
13 & M & Poetry and Invention \\
15 & W & Poetry and Style \\
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The following items have been placed on electronic reserve for English 309B and 330B:

Class and University Policies
You must turn in a paper copy of all written assignments to receive credit. Late papers will be accepted without penalty only if prior permission has been granted. Otherwise, the penalty will be 2% per day, including weekends. Sending me an electronic copy of a late essay will stop the late clock, but a paper copy must also be turned in either directly to me or to the English Department’s drop box (HH 2016E). Missed exams may be made up only with a valid medical excuse.

I will normally reply to email messages within 24 hours, weekends excepted. In the case of emails requiring lengthy replies, I may indicate to you that you should see me in person.

Laptop computers and other portable electronic devices can become distractions and so may not normally be used in class.

Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage, https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour, and the Arts Academic Integrity webpage, https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/, for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid
committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline, https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 - Student Appeals, https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72.

All sources of information that you use in your written work in this class must be cited fully and scrupulously. If I suspect that you have committed an academic offense, including plagiarism, I will report it to the Associate Dean; if the offense is confirmed, the normal result is a failing grade on the assignment and a further five marks off the course grade.

Essay Assignment
Write an essay considering a character from Othello or Coriolanus as a rhetor. The character may not be Iago. You may wish to consider in what circumstances this character speaks, why this character speaks, and how this character speaks (situation, purpose, method). You may also wish to consider this character’s degree of rhetorical success. Your essay should be 1800-2700 words long (12-point type, double-spaced) and follow a consistent documentation format. It must argue a clear thesis, and it must take the form of a unified and well-structured defence of that thesis. It will be judged on the strength and originality of its thesis, on the quality, clarity, and coherence of its supporting arguments, and on the felicity and correctness of its expression. Late essays will be accepted without penalty only if prior permission has been granted. Otherwise, the penalty will be 2% per day, including weekends.

You do not need to consult secondary sources to write this essay, and doing so could hinder your creativity. If you do make use of such sources, however, be sure that they do not control or determine your argument; rather, your critical engagement with them, whether it takes the form of agreement or disagreement, must serve to advance, and must be clearly subordinate to, your own original thesis. Also be sure to cite all use of such sources fully and scrupulously.

DUE DATE: MARCH 6, 11:30 a.m.