ENGL 309B
Rhetoric: Principles and Practice 2
Spring 2014
Wednesdays 6:30-9:20, HH 150
Professor: Shannon Hartling
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Course Description: Calendar: A study of rhetorical theories and practices from late Antiquity, Medieval, Renaissance, and the Enlightenment periods, with an emphasis on how those theories and practices reflect changing attitudes towards language, society, and the self. We will consider how rhetoric--a core subject of the European university curriculum during this period--revivifies and struggles against the classical models integral to the tradition. Particular attention will be given to rhetoric as both creating and reflecting social standards. ENGL 309A is not a prerequisite for this course, but some understanding of the rhetoric of the classical period will be helpful.

Course Goals:
- Increase your understanding of some of the major trends in European and English rhetoric from the late medieval period to the end of the eighteenth century
- Practice neoclassical rhetorical analysis of historical and possibly of current texts
- Design a presentation to help deepen your peers’ understanding of one of the readings or ideas studied in the course

Required Text: Engl.309B Course Readings, Courseware Package available at the Bookstore


Course Requirements and Overview:

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Midterm: The midterm will be held during the first hour of the class on June 12. It will be a series of identification/true or false/short answer questions dealing with the material covered up to and including the class of June 05. You will be responsible for material from lectures and discussions held in class as well as from the readings, although you will not be responsible for material from student presentations.

Presentation: You will be responsible, with a partner, for a roughly fifteen-minute presentation which will help to add depth to the class’ understanding of one of the texts under study. You will engage in research which will clarify, and help to historicize,
something significant about the rhetorical function of the work under question. The presentation will be accompanied by a one- to two-page outline and a bibliography.

**Essay:** Your essay will be between 2,000 and 2,500 words and will engage in a rhetorical analysis of a secondary work and show understanding of one of the rhetorical approaches we have studied this term. The subject of your analysis can be an excerpt from literary work, a song, a speech, an advertisement—anything with aesthetic and persuasive effect—and it can be from the era we are studying or the current era. You will need to append your text or a reasonable excerpt thereof to the end of your analysis for my reference. Documentation must meet MLA standards. I recommend, but do not require, that you clear your topic with me at least two weeks in advance of the due date, and you will need to engage in external research.

**Final Test:** The final test will be held for the entire class of July 30, and will consist of short questions, plus an essay question which will ask you to engage the theories learned in class, either to analyze those theories or to apply them in a rhetorical analysis of a text. Because university policy does not allow cumulative tests in the last week of classes, the test will cover material learned since the midterm, including material learned after the midterm on June 18. You may, however, make use of material learned in the first half of the course according to your own interest. You will be responsible for material learned in discussions and lectures—but not material from presentations—as well as for material from the readings.

**Late and Missed Test and Assignments:** A penalty of 5% per school day will be levied for any assignment handed in late without prior permission or documented emergency. The midterm and final test may not be rescheduled without adequate documentation (i.e. a doctor’s note indicating an illness which will significantly impact performance). Failure to provide adequate documentation will result in a zero on the test.

**NOTE:** for the purposes of late or missed tests or assignments, a “valid reason” for absence or lateness includes significant illness, family emergency, impassable weather conditions, accident, etc. and must be documented. It does not include vacations or assignments in other classes.

For hard copy submissions: if you do not hand in your hard copy of your essay during class time, you must submit it to the English department drop box in Hagey Hall; this means that essays must be in the drop box in Hagey Hall at the very beginning of July 24 to be backdated. I require a hard copy and will not mark copies sent as email attachments, but recommend that you also submit a copy of your essay as an email attachment as backup at the time that you submit your hard copy.

For drop box submissions: If you would prefer to hand in your essay to the dropbox on Learn, I will give fewer comments but you will have more immediate feedback. The due date for the drop box on Learn is identical to the due date for the drop box in Hagey Hall: 8:00 a.m. on July 24.
Cross-Listed Course
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the political science rubric.

Academic Integrity:

**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.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (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. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, [http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71).

**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, [http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70). In addition, consult [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes) for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (University):** [http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

**Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, 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.
Schedule of Classes:
(Note: Schedule subject to change)

May 07: Introduction. Foss, Foss and Trapp (from Contemporary Perspectives on Rhetoric: A brief history of rhetorical thought)

May 14: Augustine (On Christian Doctrine, Book IV)
Hart and Daughton (from Modern Rhetorical Criticism)

May 28: Anonymous of Bologna (from The Principles of Letter Writing)
Robert of Basevorn (from The Form of Preaching)
Rupert of Deutz ("Should a Monk be Allowed to Preach?")

Note: there will be no class on May 21, as this is the makeup day for the May 19 holiday and will follow a Monday schedule.

June 04: Christine de Pisan (from The Treasure of the City of Ladies)
Desiderius Erasmus (from Copia: Foundations of the Abundant Style)

June 11: Peter Ramus (from Arguments in Rhetoric against Quintilian)
Francis Bacon (from The Advancement of Learning)

June 18: Midterm
Margaret Fell ("Women’s Speaking Justified, Proved, and allowed by the Scriptures")

June 25: John Locke (from An Essay Concerning Human Understanding)

July 02: Thomas Sheridan (from A Course of Lectures on Elocution)
Gilbert Austin (Introduction and from Chironomia)

July 09: George Campbell (from The Philosophy of Rhetoric)

July 16: David Hume (from Of the Standard of Taste)
Edmund Burke (from A Philosophical Enquiry)

July 23: Hugh Blair (from Lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres)
Essays Due

July 30: Final Test