



# RHET 1302: Rhetoric

**Term:** Spring 2017  
**Section:** 035  
**Time:** 8:30-9:45 AM  
**Class Location:** JO 3.906

**Professor:** Dr. Kristin N. Riley  
**Email:** [knr091000@utdallas.edu](mailto:knr091000@utdallas.edu)  
**Office Number:** JO 5.401B  
**Office Hours:** TR 10:00-11:30AM

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

Gooch, John, and Dorothy Seyler. *Argument!*. Second edition. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2015, ISBN: 978-1-259-74111-1.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

RHET 1302 will prepare you for college-level writing while helping you develop your critical thinking skills. Rhetoric is the study and practice of how people communicate with audiences, not only in writing and speech, but also through visual and digital media. In this class, you will develop skills to analyze the way rhetoric, in its various forms, addresses audiences. By paying attention to the strategies that good writers use to address their readers, you will learn to reason better and to persuade others in your own writing, both through rhetorical appeals and through analysis of audience and purpose that is at the heart of the study of rhetoric. Practically speaking, you will also learn skills that you can use in your future coursework regardless of your major.

## **GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OBJECTIVES**

- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions.
- **Teamwork** – Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
- **Personal responsibility** – Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- **Communication skills** – Students will be able to engage processes and use skills to enhance their written communication skills by completing essay assignments.
- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will be able to engage processes and use skills to enhance their written communication skills by completing essay assignments.
- **Teamwork** – Students will be able to collaborate effectively in peer reviews of their written essay drafts.
- **Personal responsibility** – Students will be able to apply ethical principles for synthesizing research and documenting sources for their written essays.

## **COURSE CALENDAR:**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READING</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
Tues. 1/10	Welcome/ Introductions		<b>Diagnostic Essay- in class</b>
Thurs. 1/12	Grammar Review/ MLA Format	Chapter 14	
Tues. 1/17	Understanding Arguments: Organization	Chapter 1	
Thurs. 1/19	Understanding Arguments: Taking a Position	Chapter 6	
Tues. 1/24	Introduce Essay #1	Chapter 15	
Thurs. 1/26	Writing Arguments: Personal Narratives	Chapter 3	<b>In-Class Writing #1</b>
Tues. 1/31	Writing Arguments: Literary Analysis	Chapter 2	
Thurs. 2/2	Rhetorical Appeals	Chapter 4	
Tues. 2/7	Types of Argument	Chapter 5	
Thurs. 2/9	Types of Argument	Chapter 5	<b>In-Class Writing #2</b>
Tues. 2/14	Peer Review		<b>Draft Essay #1 Due</b>
Thurs. 2/16	Conferences		
Tues. 2/21	Introduce Essay #2	Chapter 16	<b>FINAL ESSAY #1 DUE</b>
Thurs. 2/23	Visual Analysis	Chapter 7	
Tues. 2/28	Visual Analysis	Chapter 8	
Thurs. 3/2	Visual Analysis	Chapter 9	
Tues. 3/7	Visual Analysis	Chapter 10	<b>In-Class Writing #3</b>
Thurs. 3/9	Peer Review		<b>Draft Essay #2 Due</b>
<i>Spring Break 3/13-3/17- No Class</i>			
Tues. 3/21	Conferences		
Thurs. 3/23	Conferences		
Tues. 3/28	Introduce Essay #3	Chapter 20	<b>FINAL Essay #2 DUE</b>
Thurs. 3/30	Library Resources Orientation		
Tues. 4/4	Evaluating Sources	Chapter 12	
Thurs. 4/6	Popular Sources	Chapter 11	<b>Proposal &amp; Annotated Bibliography DUE</b>
Tues. 4/11	Academic Sources	Chapter 13	<b>In-Class Writing #4</b>
Thurs. 4/13	Research Day		
Tues. 4/18	Peer Review		<b>Draft Essay #3 Due</b>
Thurs. 4/20	Conferences		
Tues. 4/25	Conferences		
Thurs. 4/27	<b>FINAL Essay #3 DUE</b>		<b>In-Class Writing #5</b>

*All matters associated with this course are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any and all changes will be communicated to students in writing.*

## **EVALUATION PROCEDURES:**

Essay #1: Rhetorical Analysis Draft= 50 points, Final = 150 points	20%	200
Essay #2: Visual Analysis Draft= 50 points, Final = 150 points	20%	200
Essay #3: Academic Research Paper Draft= 100 points, Final= 150 points	25%	250
Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	5%	50
Peer Reviews (3 @ 33.3 points each)	10%	100
In-Class Writing Assignments (5 @ 20 points each)	10%	100
Attendance and Participation	10%	100
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1000 Points</b>

*I will make use of the +/- system in grading as stipulated by the current University of Texas at Dallas Undergraduate Catalog.*

## **ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:**

**In-Class Writing Assignments:** will typically take about 20-30 minutes and will be related to material discussed in class. These assignments will have prompts given in class, which directly relate to the upcoming essay assignment in methodology, approach, and subject matter. These will be hand-written exercises.

**Peer-Reviews:** All of your essays will go through the peer review process. By analyzing the work of your peers, you will hone your own writing skills. Your job is to offer constructive criticism. On the day a draft of your essay is due, come to class with a hard-copy of your draft. \*\* If you come to class on the day of a Peer Review without a draft of your essay, you will not be able to participate in the Peer Review process. This will significantly affect the quality of your Conference time, because you will have no Peer Review document to discuss.

**Essays:** Specific information will be distributed and discussed in class for each essay.

**Extra-Credit:** You will have the opportunity to complete one extra credit assignment during the semester worth a total of 20 points. More information will be given in class. No extra-credit assignments will be accepted after the last day of class.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

You are permitted to miss **THREE** classes, no questions asked. After that, your attendance/ participation grade will be reduced by ten points for each additional absence. Please arrive to class on time. Three late arrivals will result in one absence. Late arrival is arriving ten minutes or more after class has started.

### **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

You are expected to actively participate in class discussions in a thoughtful and professional manner on a regular basis. Please do not use your cell phone during class—this includes texting, using social media, watching videos, and surfing the net. Your participation grade will be reduced by ten points each day you engage in non-related class activities during class time.

### **LATE WORK:**

All drafts, including final, must be submitted when and as required in order to successfully complete this course (this includes submission to TurnItIn). **Late assignments will not be accepted**. If you plan to be absent on a Due Date, you should turn-in your assignment early. Technology problems are not a valid excuse for late work- you need to take responsibility for saving your documents and backing them up. If for some reason you have a personal or family emergency, you **MUST** make an effort to contact me via email regarding your circumstances. If you do this, please attach your paper in the email at the time you contact me so that I can see that you have actually done the work.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Students in RHET 1302 are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. It is critically important you produce original written work and document all sources accurately using MLA format. Please consult the following web sites addressing academic integrity as well as what constitutes cheating at UTD:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/integrity/>

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/dishonesty/>

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/bigfour/>

UTD will hold you accountable regardless of whether or not you intended to plagiarize your paper. Ask your instructor should you become concerned that you are possibly committing an act of scholastic dishonesty. RHET 1302 students suspected of plagiarism or any other act of scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings. Should the Judicial Affairs Officer find a student responsible, then he or she will typically receive a “0” on the assignment in question.

### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

Please review the university policies at <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

### **WRITING CENTER:**

Located in McDermott Library room 1.312, the UT Dallas Writing Center is a free resource for you, the UT Dallas student, to help take your writing to the next level. Tutors are available every day of the week to work with you. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome.

Monday – Thursday: 9 am – 5 pm (last appointment at 4:30 pm)

Friday – Saturday: 10 am – 4 pm (last appointment at 3:30 pm)

Sunday: 1 pm – 4 pm

<http://www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess/writing>

### **SHARING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:**

Students considering sharing personal information in email, in person, or within assignments or exams should be aware that faculty members and teaching/research assistants are required by UT Dallas policy to report information about sexual misconduct to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Per university policy, faculty have been informed that they must identify the student to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Students who wish to have confidential discussions of incidents related to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct should contact the Student Counseling Center (972-883-2527 or after hours 972-UTD-TALK or 972-883-8255), the Women's Center (972-883-8255), a health care provider in the Student Health Center (972-883-2747), a clergyperson (or other legally recognized religious advisor) of their choice, or an off-campus resource (i.e., rape crisis center, doctor, psychologist). Students who are sexually assaulted, harassed, or victims of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, or stalking, are encouraged to directly report these incidents to the UT Dallas Police Department at 972-883-2222 or to the Title IX Coordinator at 972-883-2218. Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.utdallas.edu/oiec/title-ix/resources>

### **COMET CREED:**

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

*"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."*