English 4341: Rhetoric and Composition: History, Theory, and Practice I  
Spring 2018  
MWF 11 am--11:50 am  
Preston Hall 103

Professor Justin Lerberg  
203E Carlisle Hall  
jlerberg@uta.edu  
Office Hours: MW 12 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and by appointment

**Course Description:** Surveys the history of rhetorical theory and practices from earliest formulations in Greek and Roman antiquity to the early modern period and their influence on composition studies. We will engage with a limited selection of texts addressing rhetorical theory—antiquity through the early modern period—and a range of contemporary articles that address the best practices in teaching composition. Students will write short and long essays, using rhetorical and composition strategies.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

* Students should be able to analyze and reflect upon the texts they produce as well as texts produced by others.
* Students should be able to express their ideas in clear, logical, organized, concise, and persuasive ways, in both written and oral forms.
* Students will be able to effectively and appropriately participate in small group collaborative learning situations.
* Students should be able to effectively communicate orally with small groups and in front of the entire class
* Students should be able to apply knowledge of the history and theory of rhetoric
* Students should be able to apply knowledge of composition studies
* Students should be able to use knowledge of the rhetorical situation—writer, purpose, subject, genre, audience—to analyze and construct texts.
* Students should be able to practice writing as a recursive process that can lead to substantive changes in ideas, structure, and supporting evidence through multiple revisions.

**Required Texts:** All primary texts required in this course are available online as either links or in a READINGS folder in Blackboard.

**Major Assignments:**

**Reading Cards 10%**

**Short Essays (5 at 5% each) 25%**

**Rhetorical Analysis 30%**

**Think Piece 30%**

**Pecha Kucha Presentation 05%**

(**Prompts will be handed out with detailed descriptions of the major papers and the presentation.**)

**Grades:** Final grades will be calculated as follows: A=90-100%, B=80-89.99%, C=70-79.99%, D=60-69.99%, F=0-59.99%

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I recognize that the best way to engage in critical conversations about the material stems from intellectual exchange, and this cannot happen if students do not attend class. Attendance will be taken through the use of reading cards. At the start of each class, you must submit an index card that contains the following: your name, the date, a 1-2 sentence summary of the scheduled reading, and a thoughtfully constructed question (e.g., no true/false or yes/no or quiz-like questions) about the day’s assigned reading.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations: UT** Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).** Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*. For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located at the right when exiting the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. ([http://www.uta.edu/police/Evacuation Procedures.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/police/Evacuation%20Procedures.pdf))

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php

**Writing Center.** The English Writing Center is located in Room 411 Central Library.  Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays and Noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Students must register and can make appointments online at [http://uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com/). Face-to-Face and online appointments for undergraduate students are scheduled for 20, 40, or 60 minutes. Writing Center consultants assist with any aspect of academic writing, from understanding an assignment, brainstorming, revising an early draft, to polishing a final draft. However, the Writing Center is not an editing service; consultants will not correct grammar or rewrite assignments during our long sessions. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for more information about services and guidelines.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Librarian to Contact:** The subject librarian for this course is Diane Shepelwhich. Diane can be reached at [dianec@uta.edu](mailto:dianec@uta.edu) or 817-272-7521 ttp://library.uta.edu/staff/diane-shepelwich  General Library information follows:  Library Home Page <http://www.uta.edu/library>  Subject Guides <http://libguides.uta.edu>  Subject Librarians <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php>  Course Reserves <http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do>  Library Tutorials <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php>  Connecting from Off- Campus <http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus>  Ask A Librarian [http://ask.uta.edu](http://ask.uta.edu/) |  |

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381