

**ENG 551: Classical Rhetorics**  
**Fall 2018 – Session A**

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**Course Overview:** This course examines the emergence of rhetoric in antiquity and traces the multiple traditions of classical rhetoric through the end of the Second Sophistic. An awareness of the multiple rhetorical traditions that formed during this time provides a way to understand the diverse, competing rhetorical paradigms that have existed throughout the history of (western) rhetoric, and that continue to inform contemporary rhetorical theories, practices, and pedagogies. We will also consider the variety of ways classical rhetorical traditions are interpreted and used to frame scholarship in rhetoric and composition today.

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Describe a variety of classical perspectives on rhetoric, definitions of rhetoric, and the contexts that created them
- Identify the major lines of thought in rhetorical history as expressed in the 'canon'
- Evaluate narratives of classical rhetoric including who and what is included and excluded from those narratives
- Complete a final reflection that addresses an issue in contemporary rhetorical theory that dates back to the classical tradition

**Class policies:**

***Incompletes***

Please do not assume that an incomplete will be given upon request. University and departmental policy on the handling of incompletes will be followed; only in the case of verified emergencies and illnesses will an incomplete be given.

***Course Readings***

All readings are available on the Blackboard site for the class.

***Format of Assignments***

All assignments should be double-spaced in 12-point font using MLA or Chicago documentation style. With the exception of discussion board posts, assignments should be submitted on Blackboard as a Word Document (.doc or .docx). Discussion board posts and comments should be entered directly into blackboard by replying to the appropriate thread/ post. All assignments, unless otherwise announced, **MUST** be submitted to the designated area in Blackboard. Do not submit an assignment via email.

***Statement on Academic Integrity***

It should go without saying that graduate students must adhere to the highest standard of academic integrity. Students are expected to write and submit original work in this class, and

to incorporate others' words, images, or ideas into their writing using standard attribution practices. [Academic dishonesty](#) in any form will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. The Academic Integrity Policy is located at <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>. Infractions of academic integrity will be taken seriously and at a may result in a grade of "0" on the assignment or a grade of "E" or "XE" for the class at the discretion of the instructor.

### ***Disruptive, Threatening, or Violent Behavior***

Students, faculty, staff, and other individuals do not have an unqualified right of access to university grounds, property, or services. Interfering with the peaceful conduct of university-related business or activities or remaining on campus grounds after a request to leave may be considered a crime. A disruptive student may be withdrawn from a course with a mark of "W" or "E" when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process. Disruptive classroom behavior for this purpose is defined by the instructor. [Disruptive behavior](#) in any form will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. ASU Student Rights and Responsibilities are located at <http://students.asu.edu/srr/code>.

### ***Withdrawals***

Course Withdrawal Deadline	Sept 5
Session Withdrawal Deadline	Oct 5

### ***Communicating with the Instructor***

This course uses a Discussion Board called "Hallway Conversations" for general questions about the course. Prior to posting a question, please check the syllabus, announcements, and existing posts. If you do not find an answer, post your question. You are encouraged to respond to the questions of your classmates.

Email questions of a personal nature to your instructor. You can expect a response within 24 hours Monday through Friday. Emails received after 5 PM on Friday will be answered on Monday.

The Instructor will post a number of announcements in Blackboard. Please check for announcements each time you enter the workshop.

### ***Online Class***

This is an online class. There are no face-to-face meetings.

### ***Computer Requirements***

This course requires a computer with Internet access and the following:

- A web browser (Chrome, Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (free)
- Adobe Flash Player (free)
- Microphone (optional) and speaker

### ***Email and Internet***

ASU email is an [official means of communication](#) among students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to read and act upon email in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly.

*All instructor correspondence will be sent to your ASU email account.*

### ***Technical Support***

This course uses Blackboard to deliver content. It can be accessed through MyASU at <http://my.asu.edu>.

To monitor the status of campus networks and services, visit the System Health Portal (<http://syshealth.asu.edu/>).

To contact the Help Desk you have two options:

- Call toll-free at 1-855-278-5080
- chat at <http://help.asu.edu/sims/selfhelp/PreChat.seam>

### ***Studying and Preparation Time***

This class requires approximately 8-10 hours of work a week. Generally the readings can be completed in 5-6 hours and the assignments in 3-4.

### ***Late or Missed Assignments***

Notify the facilitator **BEFORE** an assignment is due if an urgent situation arises and the assignment will not be submitted on time. Published assignment due dates (Arizona Mountain Standard time) are firm. Please follow the appropriate University policies to request an [accommodation for religious practices](#) or to accommodate a missed assignment [due to University-sanctioned activities](#). **Late work is not accepted in this class and will receive a grade of "0."** Technological problems are not an excuse for late work.

### ***Grade Appeals***

Grade disputes must first be addressed by discussing the situation with the facilitator. If the dispute is not resolved with the facilitator, the student may appeal to the department chair per the [University Policy for Student Appeal Procedures on Grades](#).

### ***Student Conduct Statement***

ASU expects and requires its students to act with honesty, integrity, and respect. Required behavior standards are listed in the [Student Code of Conduct and Student Disciplinary Procedures](#), [Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications policy](#), [ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy](#), and outlined by the [Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#).

Anyone in violation of these policies is subject to sanctions.

[Students are entitled to receive instruction free from interference](#) by other members of the class.

An instructor may withdraw a student from the course when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process per [Instructor Withdrawal of a Student for Disruptive Classroom Behavior](#).

Appropriate online behavior (also known as *netiquette*) is defined by the instructor and includes keeping course discussion posts focused on the assigned topics. Students must maintain a cordial atmosphere and use tact in expressing differences of opinion. Inappropriate Discussion

Board posts may be deleted by the facilitator. The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities accepts [incident reports](#) from students, faculty, staff, or other persons who believe that a student or a student organization may have violated the Student Code of Conduct.

### ***Prohibition of Commercial Note Taking Services***

In accordance with [ACD 304-06 Commercial Note Taking Services](#), written permission must be secured from the instructor of the class in order to sell the instructor's oral communication in the form of notes. Notes must have the notetaker's name as well as the instructor's name, the course number, and the date.

### ***Class Evaluation***

Students are expected to complete the class evaluations. The feedback provides valuable information to the instructor and the Department of English and is used to improve the class.

### ***Syllabus Disclaimer***

The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Please remember to check your ASU email and the class site often.

### ***Accessibility Statement***

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at the Disability Resource Center (DRC) facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

[Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible to receive academic support services and accommodations](#). Eligibility is based on qualifying disability documentation and assessment of individual need. Students who believe they have a current and essential need for disability accommodations are [responsible for requesting accommodations and providing qualifying documentation](#) to the DRC. Every effort is made to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified participants with disabilities.

Qualified participants who wish to request an accommodation for a disability should contact their campus DRC.

### ***Student Success***

This is an online course. To be successful:

- check the workshop course shell daily
- read announcements
- read and respond to course email messages as needed
- complete assignments by the due date specified
- communicate regularly with your instructor and peers
- create a study and/or assignment schedule to stay on track

**Assignments and Grading:**

Responses to Discussion Questions (7)	60%
Replies in Discussion Boards (14)	25%
Final Reflection	15%

*Discussion Questions/ Comments*

The instructor will post approximately five discussion questions each week. In response to these questions, students should move beyond summary to begin to analyze the readings. In doing so, it is important to stay close to the text. Students should cite passages that support/inform their position primarily from primary sources. Students should answer all Discussion Questions.

The response to each question should be 200 words (except the first week) and posted directly to Blackboard (do not attach a file) as a new thread.

Additionally students are asked to Comment on two of their classmates posts. These replies are meant to simulate face-to-face discussion while asking students to critically consider their own and other's readings. While everyone appreciates "hey, good job" Comments need to substantively address the readings either by offering a different reading (supported by the text) or by furthering a position advanced by another student.

Each comment should be 100-150 words and posted directly to Blackboard (do not attach a file) by replying to the appropriate post.

*Final Reflection*

The Final Reflection asks students to read one of two articles on problems in contemporary theory and write a 3-5 page response referencing 2-3 primary readings from the class. More information on this assignment will follow.

The Final Reflection should be uploaded as a Word document in .doc or .docx format.

**ENG 551: Classical Rhetorics**  
**Spring 2017 – Session A**

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments
<b>Week 1</b> Thursday, August 16- Sunday, August 19	Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Watch “Welcome Video” (3 min.)</li> <li>▪Watch “Class Tour” (7 min.)</li> <li>▪Watch “Tips for On-line Student Success” (2 min.)</li> <li>▪Watch “Introduction to Classical Rhetoric” (25 min.)</li> <li>▪Read the syllabus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Take the syllabus Quiz <b>by 11:59 PM Friday, August 18</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 1 (cont)</b> Monday, August 20- Sunday, August 26	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Bizzell and Herber’s <i>Rhetorical Tradition</i> (RT) 1--41</li> <li>▪Walker, “Before the Beginnings” (in <i>Rhetoric and Poetics in Antiquity</i>): 3-16</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Post discussion questions <b>by 11:59 PM Tuesday</b></li> <li>▪Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b></li> </ul>

<b>Week 2</b> Monday, August 27- Sunday, September 2	<b>Sophists:</b> Gorgias, <i>Dissoi Logoi</i>	▪RT 42-44 ▪ Gorgias, <i>Encomium of Helen</i> ▪ <i>Dissoi Logoi</i> ▪ Jarratt, <i>Rereading the Sophists</i> , "Intro," ix-xxiv ▪ Fredal, "Why Shouldn't the Sophists Charge Fees?"	▪ Watch "The Sophists" (20 min.) ▪ Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b> ▪ Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b>
<b>Week 3</b> Monday, September 3- Sunday, September 9 (September 3-Labor Day)	Isocrates: <i>Evagoras</i> , <i>To Nicocles</i> , <i>Nicocles</i> , <i>Areopagiticus</i> , ( <i>Encomium of Helen</i> )	▪RT 67-71 Mirhady & Too, <i>Isocrates I</i> : ▪ "Introduction to Isocrates," 1-11 ▪ "Against the Sophists" 61-66 ▪ "Antidosis," ▪ "Evagoras," 137-156 ▪ "To Nicocles," 157-168 ▪ "Nicocles," 169-181 ▪ "Areopagiticus" 182-200 (Optional)	▪ Watch "Isocrates" (15 min.) ▪ Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b> ▪ Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b>
<b>Week 4</b> Monday, September 10- Sunday, September 16	Plato ( <i>Gorgias</i> )	▪RT 80-86 Plato, <i>Gorgias</i> (Read the entire dialogue but you do not need to read the commentary)	▪ Watch "Plato" (13 min.) ▪ Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b> ▪ Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b>
<b>Week 5</b> Monday, September 17- Sunday, September 23	Aristotle	▪RT 169-178 Aristotle, <i>The Rhetoric</i> (Read Book I, all; Book II 1-3, 12-13, 18-25; Book III 1-2, 13)	▪ Watch "Aristotle" (15 min.) ▪ Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b> ▪ Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b>

<b>Week 6</b> Monday, September 24- Sunday, September 30	Cicero ( <i>De Oratore</i> , <i>Orator</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪RT 283-288</li> <li>▪Cicero, <i>De Oratore</i> (Read the entire dialogue. Skip the commentary – it's in a different font. Do not read the Brutus)</li> <li>▪Optional: Walker, <i>Rhetoric and Poetics in Antiquity</i>: 94-109</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Watch "Cicero" (18 min.)</li> <li>▪Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b></li> <li>▪Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b> Monday, October 1- Sunday, October 7	Quintilian ( <i>Institutes</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪RT 359-364</li> <li>Quintilian, <i>Institutes</i>, Books 1, 2, &amp; 10</li> <li>▪Optional: Walker, <i>Rhetoric and Poetics in Antiquity</i>: 94-109</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Watch "Quintilian" (15 min.)</li> <li>▪Post discussion questions by <b>11:59 PM Tuesday</b></li> <li>▪Post comments by <b>11:59 PM Wednesday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Final Exam Period</b> <b>Friday, October 5</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Hariman, "Status Marginality, and Rhetorical Theory" 38-54</li> <li>or</li> <li>▪Farrell, "Practicing the Arts of Rhetoric: Tradition and Invention" 183-212</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Watch "Final Reflection"</li> <li>▪Post Final Reflection by <b>11:59 PM on Friday, October 5</b></li> </ul>

This syllabus is subject to change with advance notice. Updates will be posted on Blackboard