

## ENG 472: Rhetorical Studies

Advanced course designed to familiarize students with a broad overview of rhetorical studies. In particular, students will read such texts that appear at crucial moments in the rhetorical tradition: the pre-modern, the modern, and the postmodern. Students will investigate such questions as: what is rhetoric; what are the historical roots of rhetoric; what is its significance; what are the purposes of rhetorical theory and what is the relationship between rhetoric and philosophy. Students will:

- significantly improve their writing through the use of rhetorical theory;
- learn the theoretical justification for a kind of criticism that takes rhetoric as it means and culture as its object;
- develop a working knowledge of the history of rhetoric;
- read critically and analyze rhetorically the most significant texts in Rhetorical Studies and use those lenses to frame their own discourse;
- understand and effectively employ various forms of persuasion;
- develop an understanding of how members of a particular discipline--rhetoric-- conceive of and engage in the discursive practices of that discipline;
- understand and deploy effective rhetorical strategies in situated discourse