

[Rhetoric

MS. COSTON | ROOM: 142

EMAIL: ACOSTON@PIEDMONTCLASSICAL.COM

WEBSITE: ACOSTON.WIXSITE.COM/RHETORICPCHS



Course Overview

This course is devoted to the history, theory, practice, and implications of Rhetoric, the art and craft of persuasion, through the analysis of persuasive texts and speeches, and the creation and production of persuasive texts, speeches, and analyses. It is designed to teach students to analyze and produce various (i.e., written, visual, audible) forms of rhetoric. Through class discussions, debates, presentations, and written assignments, students will practice their own rhetorical prowess. Students will become more efficient readers as they turn their analytical skills on assigned texts and writings. This combination of reading, speaking, and writing will help students become familiar with and succeed in: critical and active reading skills and abilities; techniques of rhetorical analysis; techniques of argument; the enhancement of written and oral discourse with appropriate figures of speech; and the technique of oral presentations and the use of visual aids and visual rhetoric to secure and maintain an audience.

Class Expectations

This course is designed to be a critical, analytical, and interpretive study of Classical Rhetoric and its beginning in Ancient Greece. Further, this course seeks to situate and contextualize the use of Rhetoric in various texts, visual pieces, contemporary works, etc. By the end of this course you will be able to identify, analyze, describe, and critically discuss uses of Rhetoric in its everyday uses from interviewing skills, to political and historical context, as well as speech and presentation giving. **This course requires a lot of close, analytical reading and presenting-- so GET COMFORTABLE BEING UNCOMFORTABLE.** With this being said, I expect **all** students to **RESPECT** their peers, the instructor, the classroom, the school, and themselves (i.e. no self-doubt, saying "I Can't"). Below are other expectations that I will consider in the course.

1. Practice punctuality. To be early is to be on time. Door is shut and locked at the start of class.
2. PCHS Cellphone policy is considered. No (Limited) Cellphone use unless instructed otherwise. (1 chance)
3. Come to class on time prepared and ready to learn. No excessive locker trips. If you don't have it, then you are not prepared.
4. Complete all assignments, including homework, by all deadlines. Late work will only be accepted 2 days after due date. If work is due on Friday, make-up work must be submitted by Monday. It is your responsibility to see me for your work before or after school. Students are expected to have all assigned readings completed; this may require some reading to be completed outside of the classroom.
5. All students will be silent and respectful while other students read aloud and during presenting.
6. Participation in class discussions will enhance all students' learning experiences. **PARTICIPATION IS A DAILY GRADE!!**
7. Give yourself permission to excel. Everyone is more than capable to exceed my class expectations, therefore, I will hold **EVERYONE** to that.



Communication Protocol

I am available before, during, and after class to discuss any matter regarding the class (i.e. class assignments, senior project, etc). You may also contact me via email, however, do consider that if you send me emails during the weekend, my response may be a bit delayed. I will try to get back to you as soon as possible. I will give any notification of assignments on the class website in addition to announcements during class. On the class website you will be able to see due dates, test dates, class schedule, senior project documents, assignment sheets and instructions, etc. It is imperative that you check the website daily for any changes and new notifications.

Assignments

Assignments will be provided in class and on the class website and graded promptly.

Presentations: Usually for every chapter taught and discussed in class, there will be an allotted presentation assignment provided. You will often time be given a prompt and a rubric to ensure that all requirements are clearly stated. Due dates are also given in advance. Grading varies depending on the level of difficulty and time needed to prepare for presentations.

Tests: Tests will be given well in advance to ensure that you have enough time to prepare. A study guide may or may not be provided.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given in advanced to ensure that you have enough time to prepare. Study guides are not provided for quizzes.

Tests and Quizzes may also include assignments and presentations that will count as the following on Powerschool

Senior Project: See Senior Project Packet :)

Online References

<http://www.ncwiseowl.org/Interest/High.htm>

<https://core.ac.uk/>

<https://www.scienceopen.com/>

<https://eric.ed.gov/>

<https://www.plos.org/>