

# ENGL 3312-001 – Introduction to Rhetoric

## Course Information

Department:	Language, Literature, and Arts
Course Title:	ENGL 3312-001: Introduction to Rhetoric
Course Number:	11059
Credit Hours:	3
Prerequisite:	ENGL 2370, Intro to English Studies.

Course Description: This course introduces students to concepts, traditions, and debates in rhetorical theory and provides experience in the application of rhetoric in English studies as a discipline.

## Major Course Requirements

### Reading Responses

For each reading assignment, students will take notes, highlight, and write down their comments, questions, and thoughts for use in discussion. Reading Responses will be due at the start of each class session.

### Project One: Scholarly Report

Students will draft a report about a professional journal or professional organization in the fields of rhetoric, composition, or technical communication (or a related field if interested in something specific). The goal is to gain a broad understanding of the journal or professional organization students have chosen, including the identity, purpose, and audience of that journal or organization, and to share that information with classmates.

### Project Two: Topics of Conversation

Students will draft a report about a current topic of conversation that interests them in the fields of rhetoric, composition, technical writing, or a related field. The goal is to gain a broad understanding of at least one current conversation(s) in the field about their topic of interest and to share that information with classmates.

### Project Three: Research Presentation

Students will create a presentation about something that interests them in the fields of rhetoric, composition, or technical writing. The goal is do a deep dive into their topic of interest and to share that information with classmates in the form of a presentation that will take place during the last several weeks of class. Students are required to present a particular position on the topic in their presentation, rather than being strictly informative.

### Final: E-portfolio and Reflection Essay

A writing portfolio is a collection of work a writer selects, reflects on, and shares with an audience. Through their emphasis on reflection, portfolios support writers in their development as writers. They also prepare writers to communicate effectively in future situations both within and beyond the classroom. Students will look back on their experiences over the course of the semester. The goal of this reflection is to help students understand what they have learned and to gain a better understanding of how they will continue to develop as thinkers, writers, and rhetoricians.

## Discussion Topics and Readings

Discussion Topics	Readings
Week One: Introduction to Rhetoric	<a href="#">Wikipedia's entry on Rhetoric</a>
Week Two: What is Rhetoric?	<a href="#">Ron Christiansen</a> (2019): "Story as Rhetorical: We Can't Escape Story No Matter How Hard We Try" and <a href="#">Laura R. Micciche</a> (2004): "Making a Case for Rhetorical Grammar"

<p>Week Three: Different Englishes</p>	<p><a href="#">Gloria Anzaldúa</a> (1987): “How to Tame a Wild Tongue”</p> <p><a href="#">Vershawn Ashanti Young</a> (2010): “Should Writers Use They Own English?” and <a href="#">April Baker-Bell</a>, <a href="#">Bonnie J. Williams-Farrier</a>, <a href="#">Davena Jackson</a>, <a href="#">Lamar Johnson</a>, <a href="#">Carmen Kynard</a>, and <a href="#">Teaira McMurtry</a> (2020): “<a href="#">This Ain’t Another Statement! This is a DEMAND for Black Linguistic Justice!</a>”</p>
<p>Week Four: Feminist Rhetorics</p>	<p>skim the <a href="#">Wikipedia overview of Feminist Rhetoric</a> and <a href="#">List of Feminist Rhetoricians</a> and read <a href="#">Audre Lorde</a> (1984): “The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House”</p> <p><a href="#">bell hooks</a> (2000): <i>Feminism Is for Everybody</i> ch. 1, 2, and 4 and <a href="#">Katherine Durack</a> (1997): “Gender, Technology, and the History of Technical Communication”</p>
<p>Week Five: Borderlands Rhetorics</p>	<p>skim the <a href="#">Wikipedia overview of Anzaldua’s Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza</a> and read/watch <a href="#">Alexandra Hidalgo</a> (2016): “<a href="#">Vanishing Fronteras: A Call for Documentary Filmmaking in Cultural Rhetorics (con la ayuda de Anzaldúa)</a>”</p> <p>skim the Wikipedia overview of <a href="#">This Bridge Called My Back</a> and skim/read the introductory materials of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of <i>This Bridge Called My Back</i>, along with anything else that catches your eye</p>
<p>Week Six: Indigenous Rhetorics</p>	<p><a href="#">Linda Tuhiwai Smith</a> (2012): “Introduction” to the book <i>Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples</i></p> <p><a href="#">Malea Powell</a> (2002): “Rhetorics of Survivance: How American Indians Use Writing”</p>
<p>Week Seven: LGBTQ+ Rhetorics</p>	<p><a href="#">Matthew Cox</a> and <a href="#">Michael Faris</a> (2015): “<a href="#">An Annotated Bibliography of LGBTQ Rhetorics</a>” (Read the Introduction, skim the actual bibliography, and take a closer look at any subject area that interests you)</p> <p><a href="#">Jonathan Alexander</a> and <a href="#">Jaqueline Rhodes</a>, “<a href="#">Queer Rhetoric and the Pleasures of the Archive</a>” (Read the Introduction, Disidentification, Queer Rhetoric, Logos, Pathos, Ethos, and Tongues)</p>
<p>Week Eight: Rhetorics of</p>	<p><a href="#">Maureen Johnson</a>, <a href="#">Daisy Levy</a>, <a href="#">Katie Manthey</a>, and <a href="#">Maria Novotny</a> (2015): “Embodiment: Embodying</p>

Embodiment	Feminist Rhetorics” and <a href="#">Lisa Phillips</a> (2015): “Smellscapes, Social Justice, and Olfactory Perception” <a href="#">Jamie Landau</a> (2016): “Feeling Rhetorical Critics: Another Affective-Emotional Field Method for Rhetorical Studies”
Week Nine: Rhetorics of Health Care	<a href="#">Wikipedia overview of the Rhetoric of Health and Medicine</a> and <a href="#">Barbara Sharf</a> and <a href="#">Marsha Vanderford</a> (2003): “Illness Narratives and the Social Construction of Health” <a href="#">Judy Seagal</a> (2008): “Rhetoric of Health and Medicine” from the <i>SAGE Handbook of Rhetorical Studies</i>
Week Ten: Disability Rhetorics	Skim <a href="#">the Wikipedia overview of Disability Studies</a> and read <a href="#">Jay Dolmage</a> (2014): <i>Disability Rhetoric</i> Ch. 1 <a href="#">M. Remi Yergeau</a> (they/them/theirs) (2018): <i>Authoring Autism: On Rhetoric and Neurological Queerness</i> , Introduction
Week Eleven: Environmental Rhetorics	<a href="#">Peter Goggin</a> (2013): <i>Environmental Rhetoric and Ecologies of Place</i> , Introduction (must be signed in via the TAMUSA library to access)  <a href="#">Peter Goggin</a> (2013): <i>Environmental Rhetoric and Ecologies of Place</i> , a chapter of your choosing (must be signed in via the TAMUSA library to access)
Week Twelve: Digital Rhetoric	Skim the <a href="#">Wikipedia overview on Digital Rhetoric</a> and <a href="#">Douglas Eyman</a> , <i>Digital Rhetoric: Theory, Method, and Practice</i> Ch. 1 (skim, but do a close read of anything you think is interesting—it’s long and dense because he provides a thorough history of the field and good summaries of each of the topics he’s covering)
Weeks Thirteen – Sixteen: Student Presentations and Finals	