



FND 150 Writing and the Art of Rhetoric Fall 2022 Course Outline

Class Start Date & End Date

Class begins on Thursday, September 8 and ends on Monday, December 12.

Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

Monday and Thursday mornings 8:30-9:50am

Location: St. Francis Room (Tues.) & St. Eugene de Mazenod Room (Thurs.)

Instructor's Name: Jennifer Fast

Office: 2-07

Office Hours: TBD

Telephone: (780) 392-2450 x2317

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Skype: TBD

Course Description

A study of the fundamentals of clear and eloquent expression. Practical exercises in English grammar and syntax will be enriched by the recitation and consideration of classical and modern examples of persuasive writing in such authors as Cicero, St. Paul, and St. Augustine, as well as Jane Austen, Abraham Lincoln, G.K. Chesterton, and Flannery O'Connor.

Course Objectives

This course will help students:

- a) Gain an appreciation for how the Church contributed to the development of rhetoric; (PG1)
- b) Gain an understanding of the elements of classical rhetoric; (PG3 NB: *PG=Program Goal*)
- c) Gain skills in the close reading and analysis of literary, philosophical, and theological texts; (PG4)
- d) Gain skills in speaking in public; (PG3)
- e) Learn to write and speak in clear, persuasive, English; (PG3)
- f) Learn to write an English sonnet; (PG3)
- g) Attain proficiency in utilizing foundational rhetorical models (the oration, the sermon, the essay, the scholastic article); (PG3,1)

Course Assignments and Evaluation

Short weekly assignments – 30%:

1. One presentation from the *Elements of Style*. Each day, the first ten minutes of class will consist of a student presentation on one or more principles from the *Elements of Style*. The presenting student must (a) explain the principle(s) b) give 1-2 positive and 1-2 negative examples to illustrate it/them and c) take any questions offered by the class. (3%)
2. Nine quizzes or short assignments. Each Wednesday, students will begin class by handing in a short assignment reinforcing a concept or concepts found in the readings or discussed in a prior class. (27%)

Memorization and recitation – 10%: Over the course of the semester, students will offer 5 recitations drawn from the content of the course. The floor will be opened for recitations after each presentation (Mondays) or quiz/assignment submission (Wednesdays.) Students are responsible for completing all 5 by the last day of class (inclusive). The recitation categories are as follows:

- 1) Cicero’s division of the parts of rhetoric at *Ad Her.* 1.3, “The speaker and gesture”;
- 2) Shakespeare’s Sonnet 3, 116, or 146
- 3) An example of a literary figure listed in *Elements of Rhetoric*
- 4) A pithy saying, proverb, or quote drawn from a class reading
- 5) A pithy literary figure composed by the student

Florilegium – 10%: At the end of the term, students will submit a handwritten *florilegium* packet or booklet. Kept since the Middle Ages, *florilegia* are compilations of striking quotes from the works of the great masters. Students must write out at least 12 *florilegia* and include a 3-5 sentence comments on why the text is memorable. The best *florilegia* will be accompanied by comments which explain both the import of the text and its relation to the rest of the class.

Two orations – 25% (12.5% each): Over the course of the semester, students will write two orations. Guidelines and rubrics will be handed out in class at least 1 week prior to the due date. The first oration will be submitted in written format; the second will be delivered during “Oration Night.”

Final Exam – 25%: The final exam will consist in a variety of exercises and questions, as well as two short composition pieces. A study guide will be distributed at least one week prior to the exam.

Textbooks

John Seely, *Oxford A-Z of Grammar and Punctuation* (Oxford)
 Strunk and White, *The Elements of Style*(multiple publishers)

Topping, *The Elements of Rhetoric* (Angelico Press)
 Aristotle, *Rhetoric*, trans. Reeve (Hackett)
 Cicero, *Rhetorica ad Herennium (On the Theory of Public Speaking)*, trans. Caplan, Loeb Classics #403 (Harvard)
 Augustine, *Essential Sermons* (New City Press)
 Phillis Levin, ed., *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet: 500 Years of a Classic Tradition in English* (Penguin)
 James Daley, ed., *History's Greatest Speeches* (Dover)
 Bob Blaisdell, ed., *Great English Essays: From Bacon to Chesterton* (Dover)
 Josef Pieper, *Abuse of Language, Abuse of Power* (Ignatius)
 A good college-level dictionary such as *The Oxford College Dictionary* (must contain short etymologies)

Recommended Reading

The above texts plus handouts distributed in class will be sufficient.

Late Submission Policy.

Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the day specified by the course outline. Late assignments will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g. B to B-) per day, excluding Sundays and Holy Days. After 5 days, the assignment will be deemed incomplete. N.B.: Extensions will be granted where appropriate, but must be obtained via e-mail or in-person meeting prior to the assignment's due date.

Course Schedule

(subject to minor modifications by the professor)

	Date	Style Exercises	Rhetoric Exercises	Readings	Assignments
I	Sept 7	<i>Strunk, Rules of Usage</i> 1-2		INTRODUCTION Introduction - no reading	
	Sept 12	3-4		Aristotle, <i>Rhetoric</i> , Book I	
	14	5-6		Aristotle, <i>Rhetoric</i> , Book II	
II	19	7-8		Aristotle, <i>Rhetoric</i> , Book III	

	21	9-11		Cicero, <i>Ad Herennium</i> , I, p.1-27	Assignment 1: Paragraph Speech
III	26 28	12 13		Cicero, <i>Ad Herennium</i> , Bk 4, p.47-69 ORATIONS & HOMILIES Julius Caesar, <i>Speech Before Senate (handout)</i> /King George on outbreak of WWII (Dover)	Assignment 2: Paragraph Speech Revised
IV	Oct 3 5	14 15		Churchill, "We will Fight on the Beaches" (Dover) Mother Teresa, Nobel Peace Prize Speech (Dover)	Assignment 3: Quiz on the parts of rhetoric and the oration
V	10 12	N/A		THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS Augustine, "Homily 205"	Oration 1 due (12.5%)
VI	17* 19	16 17	<i>Begin exercises from Elements of Rhetoric</i> ER 1-2 ER 3-4	Augustine, "Homily 94A, Homily 267" EXCURSUS - POETRY Shakespeare, "Sonnet 3," "Sonnet 116"	CLASSROOM CHANGE, TBD Assignment 4: Homily
VII	24 26	18 19	ER 5-6 ER 7-8	John Donne, "Holy Sonnet 14" THE ESSAY-18thc. Francis Bacon & Samuel Johnson, "Of Studies" (https://www.psy.gla.ac.uk/~steve/best/BaconJohnson.pdf)	Assignment 5: ER4.1-2 (examples of fallacies)
VIII	31	20	ER 9-10	Bacon and Johnson	

	Nov 2	21	ER 11-12-13	"Of Love" & "Of Spring" (Dover) THE ESSAY-19thc. Newman, "Second Spring" (handout)	Assignment 6: ER 7.1 and 8.1 (two descriptions)
IX	7-11	No classes - Reading Week			
X	14 16	22 Other advice from Strunk	ER 14/SAs ER 15	D'Arcy McGee "The Separate School Question"/Belloc, "The Mowing of a Field" (handout) THE ESSAY-20thc. Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant" & "Politics and the English Language" (handout)	Assignment 7: ER 14.1-2: Write two 300 word essays on War
XI	21* 23		ER 16 ER 17-18	George Grant, <i>On The Right to Life</i> (handout) THE SCHOLASTIC ARTICLE Thomas Aquinas, "Whether Man's Happiness Consists in Wealth?" ST2-2q2a1 (in Kreeft)	CLASSROOM CHANGE, TBD Assignment 8: ER 16.2: Essay with mark-ups
XII	28 30		ER 19 ER 20	Thomas Aquinas, "Whether Man's Happiness consists in Pleasure?" ST 2-2q2a6 ADVICE ON WRITING Flannery O'Connor, "On Writing Fiction"	Assignment 9: Scholastic article
XIII	Dec 5 7		ER 21.2-5	Josef Pieper, <i>Abuse of Language, Abuse of Power</i> , first half Pieper, second half	Florilegium due (10%)

XIV	12	Review			Oration 2 due (and performed - (12.5%) date TBD
		Final Exam			Final Exam (25%)

General Academic Information

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade "F" may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Academic Calendar in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Academic Calendar in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Academic Calendar.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies			Graduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point	Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point

Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Fail	F	0.0

Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Fail	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
	F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

1. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
2. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).
3. American Psychological Association "Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association" (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services:

A student with special needs that could affect their performance in class should contact their professor during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. They should also register with Student Services by contacting the Dean of Students, Lorraine Spenrath at 780-392-2450; email lorraine.spenrath@newman.edu

Bibliography

The required texts and handouts will be sufficient.