In this course we will study reasoned argumentation and practice it in two modalities: writing and speaking. Through precept and practice, we hope to become more adept at making and judging arguments, thereby exercising habits of mind that are both practical and character-building. The model of enthymematic reasoning and topical invention will come from Aristotle’s *On Rhetoric*, supplemented as necessary by other readings.

**Required Readings:**

- Occasional handouts (in class) or pdfs (on Blackboard)
- News sources for class reports and writing and speaking issues.

**Graded Requirements:**

Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Allowance will be made for verified illness only. Preparation of assigned readings, submission of written assignments on-time, and preparation of speeches are absolute requirements. Any of the following may be graded down on the basis of lateness or lack of preparation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class writings, reports, peer reviews, and exercises</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written rhetorical analysis</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays 1 and 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speeches 1 and 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final speech</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Policies:**

Be in class and ready to discuss at 10:00 sharp. Listen attentively and address others respectfuuly. Turn off all electronic devices during class-time. If you text, tweet, email, go online, etc. during class, without specific permission, or leave class to do so, I reserve the right to mark you absent for that day. All work you do for credit in this class must be exclusively your own work and done exclusively for this class. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will result in a failing grade in the course and a report to the student conduct office. Your continued enrollment in the class signifies that you are familiar with the provisions of the code of student conduct regarding academic dishonesty, found on the Dean of Students website. If you contact me by email, use your UO account; I will not respond to email from other servers.
Schedule (changes will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard)
* Come to class prepared with an example of an issue you have found in the news and to discuss arguments on different sides. At the beginning of each class I will ask two students to report on these for 3 minutes.

M April 1 – introduction; in-class writing and discussion
W April 3 – Aristotle Bk 1 – dialectic and enthymemes; writing from another class due

M April 8 – Aristotle Bk 2 on *topoi*
W April 10 – Rhetorical analysis due; prepare for speech 1

M April 13 – Speech 1
W April 17 – Speech 1 continued

M April 22 – on oral and written modalities
W April 24 - Essay 1.1 due, peer essay review

M April 29 – Essay 1.2 due
W May 1 – Aristotle Bk 3; style exercise

M May 6 - Essay 2.1 due, peer essay review
W May 8 – Essay 2.2 due; prepare for speech 2

M May 13 – Speech 2
W May 15—Speech 2 continued

M May 20 – discussion of reading tba for final speeches
W May 22 -- “

M May 27 – No class
W May 29 – Final speeches

M June 3 – Final speeches
W June 5 – Final speeches

Finals week: Tuesday, June 11, 10:15 – 12. Reserve this time, to complete final speeches, if needed. If we use this time, attendance is required. UO is in session, no exceptions will be made for early travel plans.
DAY 1

10 – 10:20 intro and syllabus
- No final exam but reserve final time if needed
- Reading: prepared to discussion day listed on schedule.
- Issues for writing and speaking 1 and 2 open - from news, but with limits
- “at issue” Come to class prepared with an example of an issue you have found in the news and to discuss arguments on different sides
- First cycle: speech / essay -- brief --
- Second cycle: essay / speech – a bit longer
- Essays will include analytical glosses
- All speeches without notes
- Final speech longer, on issue discussed in class
- **BRING TO CLASS WEDNESDAY:** 5 pages of writing you have done for a different class; any subject – to be used later for style exercise

10:20 – 10:35 write
What is “belief?” Where does it come from? Cite one belief you hold as an example.

10:35 –11:20 **Oral brief.**
2 minutes: tell us what you wrote. **STAND UP** Say your name.
2x22= 44 minutes
[Is “belief” the same as “opinion?”]
5 minutes to think and organize your thoughts.
10 minutes to write.

- In general:
  - How do you define “belief?” Where does it come from?

- In particular:
  - Cite one (secular) belief you hold as an example of these.