

Rhetorical Analysis Assignment

Requirements: Analyzing the rhetoric of an essay, Providing Examples, Formal Writing, MLA Citation and Format.

Length: 750-850 words

Peer Review and Due Date: Please refer to course outline.

Worth in Overall Grade: 25%

Your task in this assignment is to demonstrate the techniques and strategies an author uses in deploying his or her argument. You will analyze a specific essay and write your own paper focusing on how the writer makes their argument and if it is effective. You should use proper terminology, including the kinds of appeals being made, and offer specific examples.

Your thesis is relatively limited: you are essentially arguing whether or not the author's rhetoric is successful and why you understand it to be so. A successful essay will focus on demonstrating why your position on the text is correct through a detailed analysis of the article you are engaging with.

There are key elements to include in your analysis and are best included in the introduction:

1. What is the intended audience of the text?
2. What is the purpose of the text (to argue, inspire, cajole, etc.)?
3. What is the thesis or main argument of the essay?

The majority of your essay should be based on key example of how the author attempts to support his or her position. If you do not support your argument about the text with evidence (examples from the text) your assertions will be ungrounded and therefore less powerful and more "wrong." Exceptional essays may engage in analysis of the essay use of stasis theory, structure, and style.

The essay you are required to analyze is determined by the stream you are working on.

Stream One: Arthur Machen.

You will analyze Sage Leslie-McCarthy's essay "Chance Encounters: The Detective as 'Expert' in Arthur Machen's *The Great God Pan*"

Stream Two: Songs and Politics

You will analyze Andrew Green's essay "Rage Against The Machine, Zapatismo, and the Aesthetics of Anger"

Stream Three: Technology and Learning

You will analyze Wilfrid W. F. Lau's essay "Effects of social media usage and social media multitasking on the academic performance of university students"

MLA FORMAT AND CORRECT CITATION OF MATERIAL IS REQUIRED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT. Please refer to the course syllabus for this course's late policy and warnings regarding plagiarism. ***Make sure to double-space, use a font similar to 12-point Times New Roman and format the paper properly.*** Please refer to the rubric provided on Blackboard for more information

on the grading of essays in this course.

We will discuss writing rhetorical analyses in class, and it is all right to speak to me about this assignment. You can also communicate with me through e-mail, although I must remind you about the proper allowance for response times to e-mail. Although I can answer specific questions electronically, I cannot provide consultation on papers via e-mail; this can only be done in person.