

Essay 2: The Rhetorical Analysis

Purpose:

The purpose of a rhetorical analysis is twofold: first, to understand a writer's argument/larger purpose and, second, to examine the manner in which this argument is presented. Ultimately, an analysis of a writer's purpose and style demonstrates the larger impact of the work itself. Analysis of any kind is not a means to an end but, rather, a process to deeper appreciation and understanding of a subject/text.

Prompt:

For this particular essay, you will construct a clear, organized *rhetorical analysis* of Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential*. You will be graded on your essay (100 points) as well as your prewriting and outline (50 points), so make sure your essay is **well-organized** and includes **proper evidence/analysis** throughout.

You will construct an argument (thesis) that answers the following questions:

1. What is Anthony Bourdain's *argument and/or purpose* in his book?
2. How does Bourdain articulate his argument/purpose (consider structure, style, etc.)?
3. What is the larger impact of Bourdain's text on the reader, considering points 1 and 2?

Spotlight: Since this is an in-class workshop and essay, the spotlight will be on **organization**. While your essay should include a clear thesis statement and coherent language throughout, there should be additional emphasis placed on the essay's overall structure and function (paragraphs, etc.).

While I expect and encourage you to produce a unique argument and stay true to your voice as a writer, your rhetorical analysis must do/include the following:

1. Be written clearly, including MLA formatted citations. **Ask** if you have any questions about this.
2. Have a unique title that indicates the subject of your analysis and the direction of your argument ("Essay 2," "Rhetorical Analysis," "[Title of Work]," etc. are not appropriate).
3. Have a strong introduction that 1) identifies your chosen text and the particular elements you're interested in/will be focusing on and 2) presents a clear and specific argument in your thesis statement.
4. Have at least 2 body paragraphs that utilize elements of your chosen text and present thoughtful, well-developed analysis.
5. Have a conclusion that not only "sums up" your paper, but also provides thoughtful insight for your reader to take away from your analysis.
6. In addition to the essay, you must submit your essay's outline. This may be typed or handwritten.

Length: There is no *required page length*, as this essay is handwritten. However, your essay must be fully developed, incorporating at least 4 full paragraphs.

Due Date: Wednesday, 3/11 by the end of the class period. All submissions will be on paper. Your essay must be handwritten unless otherwise approved by me.