



HON 1001: Rhetoric: Critical Communication

Humanities Honors Program

Fall 2023 ◊ 4 Units ◊ BAC 151 ◊ MWF, 8:30-9:35 a.m.

Professor Pate

Phone: 619.849.2461

cpate@pointloma.edu

Office: Bond 118

Office Hours: by appointment

Dr. Lisa Raser

Phone: 619.849.2585

lraser@pointloma.edu

Office: Cabrillo 201

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description: HON 1001: Rhetoric: Critical Communication (GE) (4)

This course sharpens students' rhetorical skills through research-based written and oral communication assignments. It also introduces students to and equips them for critical analysis of various written, oral, and visual media.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who complete Rhetoric: Critical Communication will be able to:

- 1) Apply English language conventions in various genres of academic writing (PLO2)
- 2) Demonstrate knowledge of the process of academic writing and speaking (PLO2)
- 3) Evaluate and utilize rhetorical modes of organization to create written compositions and speeches (PLO1, 4)
- 4) Evaluate the authority and expertise of various sources of information (PLO1, 2)
- 5) Construct and deliver invitational speeches and project presentations (PLO4)

Required Texts:

Bullock, Richard, Michal Brody, and Francine Weinberg. *The Little Seagull Handbook*. 4th ed. W.W. Norton, 2022.

(This text is identified as LSH for the reading assignments in the syllabus)

Griffin, Cindy, L. *An Invitation to Public Speaking*. 5th ed. Cengage Learning, 2014.

*Either the 4th or 5th edition is acceptable.

(This text is identified as IPS for the reading assignments in the syllabus.)

Additional readings and resources will be posted on Canvas or available at [The Purdue OWL](#).

Required Materials:

A writing notebook/journal of your choice

The obvious things: pen/pencil, loose-leaf paper, folder for storage, etc.

Digital Statement

The Humanities Honors Program strongly encourages students to take notes by pen and paper. Neuroscience confirms that students process and retain information better and are less easily distracted than with using a computer. However, if a student has a demonstrable need to take notes digitally, they may make special arrangements with the instructor.

Course Norms Related to Instruction

1. Students are expected to come to class on time, stay for the duration, and not carry on side conversations during lecture. In other words, students are expected to be active participants in the learning process.
2. All written work must be typed, and attention should be paid to form (including grammar, punctuation, spelling, formatting, and general appearance) as well as content.
3. Integrity is of great importance. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated and will result in a grade of "F." Additionally, for our class's purposes, the speaking and writing process is often collaborative, and students share and borrow from each other all the time. There are ways to do this that are acceptable (such as taking suggestions from a professor or a peer), but there are also ways to use other people's ideas or words in a way that is considered plagiarism (such as passing off somebody else's work—even just a sentence—as your own). We will discuss this further in class. If you have questions about proper citation and documentation of any sources you are using, please ask us. Review the sections in our manual that cover MLA Style, especially the section on "Integrating Sources, Avoiding Plagiarism" (LSH 138+). Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g, ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski) is not permitted, and use of these tools will be treated as plagiarism.
4. Inclusive Language Statement: Because language is powerful and shapes the way we think, all public language used in this course, including written and spoken discourse, will be inclusive. This standard is outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and is the norm in university-level work. See the following resources for more detailed information: "Words for Building Common Ground" (LSH 409-10), "[Appropriate Language](#)" at *The Purdue OWL*, CSU's [Diversity Style Guide](#)
5. Classroom disruption by cell phones or other electronic devices (i.e. text messaging) is prohibited. All laptops, cell phones, and similar electronic devices must remain turned off and out of sight for the duration of class. A student may face a zero and/or failure in the class if an electronic device is used for cheating.
6. Please DO NOT disrupt class while students are presenting. This includes walking in and out of the classroom.

7. Much of the work we will do in this class is cooperative. You should think of all your writing and speaking for and in class as public, not private, discourse. By continuing in this class, you acknowledge that your work will be viewed by others in the class.

8. Your PLNU email account/Canvas announcements should be checked daily. This is the way that we will most frequently communicate with you outside of class, and it's also the way the university distributes important information.

9. This syllabus serves as the contract between the students and professors. Your continued enrollment in the course serves as an agreement to abide by the policies and information set forth here and not to expect exceptions to be made for you.

CLASS POLICIES

Grade Distribution: In order to receive credit for the course, all of the following must be completed. **Failure to complete any major assignment will result in failure of the course.**

Research Paper	20% - 100 pts
Invitational Speech	20% - 100 pts
Multi-Genre Project	20% - 100 pts
Other Assignments*	<u>40% - 200 pts</u>
	100% - 500 pts

*Formal Email, Mini Speeches, Field Report, Follow-Up, Bibliography, Peer Feedback, Article Reviews, Self-Analysis, etc.

Grade Scale:

A- = 90-93%; A = 94-97%; A+ = 98-100%: Excellent (*Phenomenal work that far exceeds the minimum requirements of the assignment; excellent logic, structure, and organization; virtually no grammar and punctuation errors; engaged in class lecture and discussion; Comprehensive excellence is needed for a superlative grade in this course.*)

B- = 80-83%; B = 84-87%; B+ = 88-89%: Above average (*Excellent work that exceeds the minimum requirements of the assignment; no major problems with logic, structure, and organization; very few grammar and punctuation errors.*)

C- = 70-73%; C = 74-77%; C+ = 78-79%: Average (*Good work that meets the minimum requirements of the assignment; may have minor problems with logic, structure, and organization; may have some grammar and punctuation errors; midpoint between extremes of excellence and failure.*)

D- = 60-63%; D = 64-67%; D+ = 68-69%: Below average (*Poor work that does not fully meet the minimum requirements of the assignment; may have some problems with logic, structure, and organization; grammar and punctuation errors may hinder meaning.*)

F = 59% and below: Failure (*Poor work that does not fulfill the assignment; may have serious problems with logic, structure, and organization; grammar and punctuation errors may obscure meaning.*)

Attendance & Participation: Because discussion will be an important part of our class, your regular attendance and participation are required for you to be successful. Your first two absences will not count against your grade, but use them wisely. For each additional absence, your total grade will be lowered by 2%; **if you miss class more than 6 times (over 2 weeks), you will automatically fail this course.** Coming to class unprepared, staring at a screen, or being disruptive in class will also count as an absence. Also, since arriving late to class is distracting to your classmates (and to your professors), you are expected to arrive on time. Two late arrivals will count as one absence.

Readings: Readings are due on the date they're listed in the course outline. Always bring your copy of the assigned reading to class with you for use in discussion. Read actively and make notes directly on the text and/or on the side.

Mini Speeches: We will have two "mini speeches" (Introductory & Toast) throughout the semester. The purpose of these mini speeches is to give you more practice with speaking in front of a group. These speeches will not be graded, but you will receive 10-15 participation points for thoughtful preparation and delivery of each. Mini speeches must be completed on the designated class period on the schedule and cannot be made up or completed early.

Major Assignments: Over the course of the semester, you will draft, revise, and edit three major assignments: a research paper, an invitational speech (and outline), and a multi-genre project. Due dates are listed on the course outline and more specific prompts for the assignments will be distributed as noted. Failure to complete any major assignment will result in failure of the course.

Peer Response Workshops/Feedback: On some occasions, you will get into peer groups and give each other feedback on assignments. We will give you more detailed instructions before each peer response workshop. You will also be assigned to give peer feedback during speeches.

Student-Directed Conferences: During the semester, you must meet with us at our offices during assigned conference times to discuss your research, writing, speaking, or whatever else you'd like. Dates for these mandatory conferences are on the course outline. This will be part of your attendance grade. Feel free to meet with us more often than this!

Due Dates: Dates when assignments are due are listed on the attached course outline; all written assignments are due at the beginning of class or at the Canvas due date. The Invitational Speech is due on the speech date that you will sign up for in advance. Your speech date is your commitment and should not be changed. Speech makeups are only permitted in the rare instance of a documented illness or personal emergency *and* you have notified us in advance of the speech day.

We highly encourage you to visit with us one-on-one during office hours to run ideas, drafts, or any questions by us. Once an assignment receives a grade, there will be no further opportunities to revise for a new grade. *Late work is not acceptable.* If unusual circumstances will keep you from completing an assignment on time, please make arrangements with us for an extension BEFORE the due date if possible (or if you wake up sick, please email us as soon as you're able to make a new plan). Please complete all

readings on time as well. All coursework must be completed by the end of our final exam period. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Extra Credit: Writing events go on frequently at PLNU and in our larger San Diego community. Attend an author lecture, reading, or workshop and write a 1-2 page critical analysis and reflection over what was said and how you can apply it to your reading and/or writing. Due within one week of the event. This will earn you up to 5 extra points (up to 2 times).

Final Course Grades: Final course grades will be submitted electronically at the conclusion of the semester by the deadline set forth by the university. Any questions regarding final grades need to be addressed within two weeks of the class ending and must be sent in writing to the professors. Grade inquiries beyond that time will not be allowed.

Course Schedule

This is a tentative course schedule. Any changes will be made orally in class, posted in Canvas, and/or sent via email.

Date	Class Plan	Preparation
M Aug 28	Welcome and Course Introduction Discuss Introductory Speech	*Introductory speech due next class
W Aug 30	Introductory Speech	Review Syllabus and put important dates in your planner or phone with “alerts” set. Prepare Introductory Speech
F Sept 1	Email Etiquette Introduce Field Interview	Read: Email Etiquette links (Canvas); Writing Contexts (LSH 2-5); Interviews (LSH 128);
M Sept 4 - Labor Day	No Class	
W Sept 6	Intro to Public Speaking & Effective Listening	Due: Email Read: Words for Building Common Ground–Respectful and Inclusive Language & Englishes (LSH 409-12, 417-26); IPS chapter 1 & 2
F Sept 8	Expectations for College Writing Research Paper assigned	Read: Academic Contexts, Reading Strategies & Writing Processes (LSH 6-26)
M Sept 11	Speech Topics and Audiences	Due: Field Interview Read: IPS Ch 3 & 4
W Sept 13	“Imitation Calamari” How to create a research question Keeping an annotated bibliography	Read: Doing Research (LSH 116-29); Annotated Bibliographies (LSH 106-10) Due: Topic & Informal Research

F Sept 15	Meet in the Main Computer Lab in Library at 8:30 a.m.	Read: Evaluating Sources (LSH 129-36); IPS Ch 5
M Sept 18	Meet in the Main Computer Lab in Library at 8:30 a.m.	Work on Library Assignment
W Sept 20	Meet in the Main Computer Lab in Library at 8:30 a.m.	Due: Library Assignment (to librarians on Canvas)
F Sept 22	In Class: Thesis workshop	Read: IPS Ch 6; Synthesizing Ideas (LSH 136-38); Developing a Tentative Thesis (LSH 18)
M Sept 25	Research/Conferences <i>Come prepared to discuss your research. Bring questions.</i>	Conferences with Prof. Pate in BAC 118
W Sept 27	Research/Conferences <i>Come prepared to discuss your research. Bring questions.</i>	Conferences with Prof. Pate in BAC 118
F Sept 29	In Class: Discuss Speech Anxiety Delivery Practice	Read: Rothwell's Practically Speaking Chapter 2: Speech Anxiety (Canvas); IPS Ch. 10 Due: Written Response to Questions on Rothwell
M Oct 2	In Class: Discuss arguments and bibliographies	Read: Arguments (LSH 53-62) Due: Full Annotated Bibliography (LSH 106-10)
W Oct 4	In Class: Outline workshop	Read: Organizing & Drafting (LSH 19); Developing Paragraphs (27-29) Arguments (LSH 43-48) Due: Outline

F Oct 6	In Class: Voice, Citation Practice	Read: Synthesizing Ideas; Integrating Sources, Avoiding Plagiarism (LSH 136-49) <i>Skim:</i> MLA Style (LSH 150-200)
M Oct 9	In Class: Peer Response	Read: Getting Response & Revising (LSH 20-23), Collaborating (LSH 25-26) Due: Research Paper (full draft)
W Oct 11	Introduce the Invitational Speech Commas save lives	Read: IPS Ch 13 Read: Editing the Errors That Matter (LSH 300 & skim this section)
F Oct 13	In Class: Reasoning and Fallacies Share examples from Find a Fallacy Scavenger Hunt	Read: IPS Ch 14 Due: Find a Fallacy Scavenger Hunt (Bring your example to class)
M Oct 16	In Class: Editing Workshop	Read: Editing & Proofreading (LSH 23-25, 337-42); Due: Research Paper (complete draft)
W Oct 18	In Class: Developing and Supporting Your Ideas <i>Who Would Win?</i> Visual Aids	Read: IPS Ch 6 & 11 Due: Final Research Paper
F Oct 20 - Fall Break	No Class	
M Oct 23	In Class: Kinesthetic Speaking; Delivery Plan	Read: "Kinesthetic Speaker" article (Canvas) Due: Article Review for "Kinesthetic Speaker"
W Oct 25	In Class:	Read: IPS Ch 7 & 8

	<p>Introductions & Conclusions Quoting and Paraphrasing in Speeches Work on Speech Outline</p>	
F Oct 27	<p>In Class: Creating Powerful Questions Work on Speech Outline & Outline Peer Feedback</p>	
M Oct 30	Conferences	Conferences with Dr. Raser. Bring a draft of your Invitational speech outline.
W Nov 1	Conferences	Conferences with Dr. Raser. Bring a draft of your Invitational speech outline.
F Nov 3	<p>In Class: Genre Conventions, Audience Multi-Genre Project Introduction</p>	Read: Visual Rhetoric, Business Letters, PowerPoint (on Canvas); Designing What You Write (LSH 40-47)
M Nov 6	Invitational Speeches	Complete Peer Feedback
W Nov 8	Invitational Speeches	Complete Peer Feedback
F Nov 10	Invitational Speeches	Complete Peer Feedback
M Nov 13	Invitational Speeches	Complete Peer Feedback
W Nov 15	Invitational Speeches	Complete Peer Feedback
F Nov 17	<p>In Class: Argument in creative genres Introduce Toasts & Tributes</p>	<p>Read: Morrison's "Recitatif" and Rukeyser's "Myth" (on Canvas) Work on Multi-Genre Project</p>
M Nov 20	In Class: Toasts & Tributes	Prepare Toast/Tribute Note: You must be present

		during this class to present your toast/tribute. This mini speech cannot be given early.
W Nov 22 - Thanksgiving	No Class	
F Nov 24 - Thanksgiving	No Class	
M Nov 27	In Class: How to use satire for argument Multi-Genre Prep	Read: Satirical writing (on Canvas) Work on Multi-Genre Project
W Nov 29	In Class: Peer Response	Due: Multi-Genre Project (full draft)
F Dec 1	Multi-Genre Prep meeting with Professors	
M Dec 4	Multi-Genre Presentation	Complete Peer Feedback
W Dec 6	Multi-Genre Presentation	Complete Peer Feedback
F Dec 8	Multi-Genre Presentation	Complete Peer Feedback
Final Wed. Dec 13 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.	Multi-Genre Presentation	Complete Peer Feedback Due: Final Multi-Genre Project

Important Statements & Policies

PLNU Mission Statement

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Honors Mission Statement

The Humanities Honors Program exists to promote greater understanding of diverse human traditions of self-awareness and creativity. Examining these traditions in light of the Christian faith and liberal methods of learning, students excel in their abilities to interpret and discuss written, visual, and sonic texts within theological and interdisciplinary frameworks. Students take their education beyond the classroom in extracurricular activities, as well as in works of service and mercy as informed by the Wesleyan tradition.

FE (Foundational Explorations) Mission Statement

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires being present to participate in the final assignment **on the scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early presentations or alternative days will be approved. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g. ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski) is not permitted, and use of these tools will be treated as plagiarism.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.