

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2025
SYLLABUS

ENGL 3377-0071: Introduction to Rhetorical Studies 3 HRS	
Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Rhetoric	School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name:	Dr. Robert Tinajero
Office Location:	Founders Hall 258
Office Phone:	Please Email
Email Address:	Robert.tinajero@untDallas.edu
Office Hours:	Posted in Canvas
Course Format/Structure:	Online Asynchronous
Classroom Location:	
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Online Asynchronous
Course Description:	
Prerequisites:	ENGL 1313
Co-requisites:	None
Required Text:	All required materials will be posted in Canvas
Required Textbook:	There is no required textbook for this course. All materials will be open-source and provided to students throughout the semester.
Access to Learning Resources:	<p>UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untDallas.edu/library email: library@untDallas.edu</p> <p>UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untDallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untDallas@bkstr.com</p> <p>Getting Help with Canvas:</p> <p>Canvas 24 /7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634</p> <p>Canvas Help Resources: web: https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701</p> <p>For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning): Founders Hall, Rm 124 phone: (972) 338-5580 email: UNTD-DigitalLearning@untDallas.edu</p> <p><i>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</i></p> <p>If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email or Canvas Inbox.</p>
<p>Supported Browsers Chrome</p> <p>Supported Devices: iPhone Android Chromebook (Tablet users can use the Canvas app)</p>	

Course Description: This course will explore the foundations of rhetorical studies as a discipline. It will serve as an introduction to the discipline of rhetorical studies more generally and serve as an introduction to rhetoric and communication praxis and theory.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes (SLOs): At the end of this course, students will:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Understand what constitutes rhetorical studies. |
| 2. | Engage with various texts and content related to the study of rhetoric. |
| 3. | Connect rhetorical theory to real-world topics and issues. |
| 4. | Communicate knowledge and opinions connected to various aspects of rhetorical studies. |

Course Outline

This schedule is subject. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class, via class email, or as a Canvas announcement.

Week	SLOs Covered	Content / Topic	Major Assignment / Assessment
1		<p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductions: Instructor, students, syllabus, Canvas, etc. - Creating and using technology in this course: blogging, podcasting, and AI <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create and post links to blog and podcast - Post in discussion board 	<p>Post Medium blog link in Canvas</p> <p>Post podcast link in Canvas</p> <p>Discussion post</p>
2	4	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Blogging and Podcasting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to write a strong blog essay - How to create and post a podcast episode - How to use and not use Artificial Intelligence in this course - Tool: NotebookLM <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write and publish blog essay 	Blog Essay 1 Due
3	1, 2	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>What is rhetoric and why does studying it matter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes: What is rhetoric and rhetorical studies? - Video: What is rhetoric? - Reading: "The Everyday Function of Rhetoric" 	<p>Quiz 1 Due</p> <p>Discussion board post due</p>

		Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take Quiz - Discussion board post 	
4	1, 2	<u>Content</u> The Traditional Forefathers of Rhetoric <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle - General theories of each rhetorician Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take quiz 	Quiz 2 Due
5	1, 2, 3, 4	<u>Content</u> The Traditional Subjects of Study: Politics, Law, and Preaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes: What were the subjects of traditional rhetorical studies? Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write and publish blog essay 	Blog Essay 2 Due
6	1, 2, 3	<u>Content</u> Side Note: Content in weeks 6-9 is building up toward your first podcast episode. Rhetorical Situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: "The Rhetorical Situation: Key Terms" - Activity: Analyzing real-life rhetorical situations Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion board post 	Discussion board post due
7	1, 2	<u>Content</u> Ethos, Pathos, and Logos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: "Rhetorical Strategies" - Video: Ethos, Pathos, and Logos - Video: Speech for analysis Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take quiz - Watch the movie 8 Mile by week 9 	Quiz 3 Due
8	1, 2, 4	<u>Content</u> Relandscaoping the Rhetorical Tradition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes: What Constitutes the Traditional Rhetorical Studies Canon? - Notes: Expanding the Canon 	Blog Essay 3 Discussion board post due

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: “Relandscaping the Rhetorical Tradition” <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion board post - Write and publish blog essay - Finish watching 8 Mile 	
9	3, 4	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Rhetorical Situation, Ethos, Pathos, Logos, and Kairos in Practice/Praxis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final Rap Battle from the movie 8 Mile - TikTok: Ethos, Pathos, and Logos in Eminem’s 8Mile Final Rap Battle <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create podcast episode 	Podcast Episode 1 Due
10	4	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Peer Review of Podcast Episode: Analysis and Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various rhetoricians and their theories <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion board post 	Discussion board post due
11	1, 2, 4	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Side note: the content covered in weeks 11-13 will be on a quiz in week 13.</p> <p>Historical Theories in Rhetorical Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various rhetoricians and their theories <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write and publish blog essay 	Blog Essay 4 Due
12	1, 2, 4	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Current Theories in Rhetorical Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various rhetoricians and their theories <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write and publish blog essay 	Blog Essay 5 Due
13	1, 2	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>Current Theories in Rhetorical Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various rhetoricians and their theories - 	Quiz 4 Due

		Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take quiz 	
14	1, 2, 3	<u>Content</u> Digital Rhetoric and Artificial Intelligence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various Content Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Begin developing final project 	
15 Finals	1, 2, 3	<u>Content</u> Digital Rhetoric and Artificial Intelligence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various Content Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue working on final project 	
16 Finals	3, 4	Final Project Due	Final Project Due

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Blog Writing: Students will compose a number of short-answer blog essays to reflect upon and understand their work in the class, course concepts, and readings.

Quizzes: Students will be quizzed over course concepts and/or readings.

Podcast Episodes: Students will produce short podcast episodes where they discuss and analyze course content.

Final Project: Students will integrate course content into a creative multi-media final project.

Professionalism/Participation: Students will be involved in discussions and be expected to reflect on course content.

Grading Rubric:

Instrument	Measures SLO	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Blog Essays	1, 2, 3, 4	20%	
Quizzes	1, 2	25%	
Podcast Episodes	1, 2, 3, 4	25%	
Final Project	1, 3, 4	20%	
Professionalism Grade	4	10%	
TOTAL:			100%

Grade Determination

A = 90% or better

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = less than 60%

Course Policies

Late Work

Assignments and quizzes will be deducted 10 points for each day they are turned in late. If a student is having a problem consistently turning in work on time, a meeting will be scheduled with the instructor.

Professionalism Grade and Attendance

For this online course, “attendance” and professionalism are evaluated on the basis of consistent participation in the course. This includes online discussions, responding to messages and emails, turning work in on time, etc.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance)

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodation at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu on the first floor of the Student Center.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring that online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Applied English Program's AI Policy

The UNT-Dallas Applied English program acknowledges the evolving capabilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and their various effects on student writing and content creation. The program and the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Rhetoric is focused on implementing AI-Aware strategies and fostering an environment that emphasizes the ethical and strategic use of AI. Instructors are encouraged to provide clear information, strategies, and policies on AI use in each course and assignment, and students are expected to use AI in an ethical manner. The Applied English program will work at creating an environment of instructor-student-technology collaboration as we move forward in a society where students must learn how to critically harness the capabilities of new technologies.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <http://untsystem.policysystem.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>).

Classroom Disruption

Students are expected to always engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses because of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences, and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (**UNTD Policy 7.001** found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Course Evaluations

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness are a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I (as the instructor) will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have been posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking

UNT Dallas is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, free from gender and sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in accordance with Title IX, Texas laws and University Policies. Please note that all employees are mandated reporters and must report all instances of sexual misconduct, dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of sex or gender-based discrimination or violence and wish to speak to the Title IX Coordinator, you can email them at titleix@untDallas.edu or file a report [here](#).

Pregnancy, Pregnancy Related Conditions and Parenting Modifications Under Title IX

UNT Dallas is committed to compliance with Title IX, and to supporting the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions. If you are a pregnant, have pregnant related conditions or a parenting student (child under one-year needs documented medical care) who wishes to request reasonable related modifications from the University under Title IX, please email the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@untdallas.edu The Title IX Coordinator will work with your professors and academic unit to provide reasonable modifications needed to be supportive of your education while pregnant or as a parent under Title IX.

Bad Weather Policy:

Campus facilities will close, and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information, please refer to <http://www.untdallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Technology Assistance:

To successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus. If you have trouble accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>

Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating

Systems: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>