1. Course Description

This course traces the development of oratory and rhetoric throughout Greek and Roman antiquity. Examining the speeches of some of the ancient world’s most famous practitioners of this art (Lysias, Isocrates, Demosthenes, Cato, Cicero, Caesar), we will explore both the practical and theoretical aspects of what the Greeks called the *techne rhetorike* and the Romans *ars oratoria*, in order to gain an understanding not only of the contexts and occasions of speech-making, methods of composition, and customs of performance, but also of ancient beliefs and ideas about persuasion, style, character, gender, and power. In other words, in addition to reading exemplary works of oratory and rhetorical theory, our goal will be to try to understand better the role of oratory and rhetoric within the societies of ancient Greece and Rome, as well as their cultural significance.

By the end of the course, students will be familiar with the major oratorical texts and authors of antiquity and the major developments in rhetorical theory from the 5th c. BCE to about the 3rd c. CE. Perhaps most importantly, students will gain an awareness and appreciation of the unique importance of oratory and rhetoric in Greek and Roman society and culture during this time.

2. Textbooks

- Thomas Habinek *Ancient Rhetoric and Oratory* Wiley-Blackwell 2004
- Catherine Steel *Roman Oratory* Cambridge 2006
- Michael Grant *Cicero: Selected Political Speeches* Penguin 1977
- David Phillips *Athenian Political Oratory* Routledge 2004

3. Assessment & Grading

Assignments will consist mainly of readings from primary and secondary sources, with discussion questions given for each reading. Students will also be expected to write two short analytical papers keyed to the themes of the course, and a final research paper on a topic of their choosing.

Regular attendance, punctuality, and engagement are required. Repeated tardiness will adversely affect your grade. You will be permitted two unexcused absences, but any further unexcused absence will result in a one-third drop in your grade (i.e., from an A to
an A-). If you must miss class for a legitimate reason, let the instructor know beforehand. In cases of emergency, inform the instructor as soon as possible of the reason for the absence and in all cases be prepared to submit documentation (doctor's notes, etc.).

Your course grade will be calculated according to the following percentages:

15% Attendance, engagement, class participation
20% Assigned homework and discussion questions
20% First short writing assignment
20% Second short writing assignment
25% Final research paper

All components of the course must be completed to receive a passing grade.

4. UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are obliged to abide by the University's policies on academic integrity. Students who violate these rules will be subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University.

As defined by the University of Texas Regent's Rules of Regulation, “scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.”

Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. If you are unclear about this policy, you may refer to the UTSA Student Code of Conduct on scholastic dishonesty and disciplinary action (www.utsa.edu/OSJA/index.cfm).

5. ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND THE TOMÁS RIVERA CENTER

A large proportion of beginning students find that the skills they developed in high school are inadequate for success at the college level. To address this discrepancy, the Tomás Rivera Center, located in the University Center (1.01.02), provides an array of services to assist students in achieving academic success at the University. For example, the Center provides training and assistance in such areas as study skills, test-taking strategies and note-taking skills. Unfortunately, while the Center provides individual advising and tutoring for some courses, at this time tutoring is not available for this course; however, the Center's various skills workshops may prove extremely helpful. For additional information, please visit www.utsa.edu/trcss on the web or contact the Center by phone at (210) 458-4694.

6. POLICY ON STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with documented disabilities have access to an array of support services through the Office of Disability Services (MS 2.03.18). If you are a student with a registered disability, please make an appointment to speak with the instructor within the first month of the semester to discuss appropriate accommodations. For more information, contact the Office by phone at (210) 458-4157 or visit them on the web at www.utsa.edu/disability.