

## Final Project Assignment Sheet English 323 | Fall 2011 | Lauren Clark

**Purpose:** This project is meant to serve as the culmination of everything you have learned in 323. You will truly be writing in the rhetorical tradition.

**Mission:** Your goal for the final project is to write a rhetorical argument that is based in the strategies we have learned over the course of the semester. You may write about anything you wish; you can argue that the Occupy movement is politically sound, or you can argue that you make the best chocolate cake in the world. No matter what your topic, you must feel very passionate about it; you do have to sustain an argument over at least 8 pages. Of the five rhetorical canons (invention, arrangement, style, memory, delivery) you are explicitly using the first three. (Refresh your memory on the definitions: <http://rhetoric.byu.edu/canons/Canons.htm>)

*Invention:* Find the available means by which to present your argument. What kind of inventional strategies do you need to implement? (chp 4.) How will you incorporate logos, ethos, and pathos? How will you compose those proofs? (chps 5-7.)

*Arrangement:* In what order will you present your proofs or arguments? Do you need an introduction or an insinuation? What should you focus on in your peroration or conclusion? (chp 9 and *Analyzing Prose*.)

*Style:* How will you support your argument, and your proofs, using tropes or figurative language? Will you rely mostly on periodic style or running style? Noun style or verb style? Parataxis or hypotaxis? (chp 10 and *Analyzing Prose* chps 1-3.)

**Context:** This project is meant to get you to truly write in the rhetorical tradition. You will thus construct a piece of written prose that is meant to persuade your audience. Recall that Aristotle refined rhetoric as the art of persuasion. All of the strategies we have discussed over the semester are means by which a rhetor can persuade his or her audience. This project is your final accumulation of all we have discussed over the past 12 weeks. You have consistently completed rhetorical activities, progymnasmata, and analysis of commonplaces during the semester. This project is now your opportunity to take what you believe are the most persuasive means, the most compelling rhetorical figures, and use them to make your very own rhetorical argument.

### **Resources:**

- Use Crowley and Hawhee's Ancient Rhetorics

- Use Lanham's Analyzing Prose
- Use your class notes

**Requirements:**

- 8-10 pages in length (may go over. Don't write more than 12 pages.)
- 3-4 page analysis (may go over. Don't write more than 5 pages.)
- Use analysis to call my attention to the rhetorical strategies, schemes and tropes, flowers (figures of language and thought) and any other elements in your argument.

**Due date:** Wed Dec 7th by 11:59 pm (end of the day). You will turn in your paper and your analysis via Moodle. If Moodle goes down, email me the document(s).