

**LITS3301 ISSUES IN CRITICISM**

**TERM PAPER 2011-2012**

**BASED ON MODULE ONE: RHETORICAL THEORY**

Answer ONE (1) of the following questions, referring closely to the text(s) of the theorist(s) in question:

1. Comparing his Rhetoric to ONE other work of rhetorical theory studied, discuss the claim that Aristotle provides an "indispensable and systematic foundation for all subsequent discussions of rhetoric."
2. Referring closely to *at least* TWO of the following works by Aristotle, discuss the differences posited between 'analytic,' 'dialectic' and 'rhetoric':
  - Prior Analytics and Posterior Analytics [these together count as one text];
  - Topics;
  - Rhetoric.
3. Comparing Quintilian's Institutio Oratoria to Burke's "Four Master Tropes," examine the view that Quintilian's discussion of tropes and figures of speech "initiates the stylistic tradition of rhetoric."
4. Would you agree that Nietzsche's "On Truth and Lies in a Non-Moral Sense" represents the "first contribution to epistemic rhetoric"? Answer by comparing Nietzsche's essay to Scott's "On Viewing Rhetoric as Epistemic."
5. Discuss Burke's influence, if any, on Weaver's "Language is Sermonic."
6. In what ways is Perelman's "The New Rhetoric" both influenced by and a departure from the distinction drawn by Aristotle between analytic, dialectic and rhetoric?
7. Compare Bitzer's "The Rhetorical Situation" with Black's "The Second Persona."

**DEADLINE: 5 pm, Thursday March 29, 2012**

**LENGTH:** 10 pages maximum (typewritten, double-spaced)

**CLOSE READING:** In your answer, you should refer closely to the primary source(s) by the theorist(s) in question.

**ESSAY WRITING:** it is your responsibility to submit a well-written essay in response to one of the questions listed above. Please note that LITS3301, like all other Level II and III courses in Literatures in English, is not designed to teach you how to write an essay. It is assumed, rather, that you are equipped with the basic skills of essay writing of the sort tackled in the Level I Foundation Language courses. If you have problems, severe or otherwise, expressing yourself on paper coherently and correctly, please seek advice as to how you may fix them. Please consult my Essay Writing Guidelines posted online for essential advice on putting your term paper together.

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