HI 210-01: Introduction to Rhetoric  
Room 125 Fisher  
Tuesday and Thursday, 3:35-4:50 p.m.  
Fall Quarter, 1999  

Instructor: Associate Professor Craig Waddell  
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Required Text  

General Course Description  
In Classical times, rhetoric was generally understood to be the art of civic discourse; that is, the art of public speaking in the courts (forensic), in the assemblies (deliberative), and in public ceremonies (epideictic). It focused on the means of persuasion and assumed that other forms of discourse (e.g., scientific discourse) relied not on persuasion, but on demonstration. For example, it was assumed that in proving the tensile strength of a metal, a scientifically minded person would rely not on rhetorical appeals, but on a demonstration of such strength, which, in effect, would speak for itself.  

More recently, some scholars have argued that all discourse—in fact, all symbol using in general—is persuasive; hence, rhetorical. Without challenging that position, this introduction to rhetoric narrows its scope to the more traditional conception of rhetoric as the art of public deliberation about matters of policy. We'll examine whether (if so) how the study of Classical rhetoric can enhance public deliberation in a technologically advanced, democratic society.  

Evaluation  
Your final grade will be determined approximately as follows:  

15% Persuasive Letter #1  
15% Reading Quiz #1  
15% Persuasive Letter #2  
15% Reading Quiz #2  
10% Proposal for Analysis Paper  
20% Analytic Paper  
10% Class Participation and Oral Presentations  

The Americans with Disabilities Act  
MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Mellon, Associate Dean of Students (7-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, your department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3310).  

Schedule of Assignments and Class Activities  
Dates indicate when reading and writing assignments are due, not when they are given. I've used the following abbreviation for our text: CRT = Classical Rhetorical Theory.  

Week 1: Introduction  
Sept. 7 Overview of course; review of syllabus; introductions.  
Sept. 9 CRT Preface and Introduction  

Week 2: Forensic Rhetoric  
Sept. 14 CRT Ch. 1 Rhetoric and Law; (K-Day?);  
Sept. 16 Further discussion of forensic rhetoric; (K-Day?); video?  

Week 3: Deliberative Rhetoric  
Sept. 21 CRT Ch. 2 Rhetoric and Politics  

Week 4: Epideictic Rhetoric  
Sept. 28 CRT Ch. 3 Rhetoric and Display  
Sept. 30 Reading Quiz #1  

Week 5: Rhetoric and Representation  
Oct. 5 CRT Ch. 4 Rhetoric and Language  
Oct. 7 Further discussion of rhetoric and representation  

Week 6: Epistemic Rhetoric  
Oct. 12 CRT Ch. 5 Rhetoric and Knowledge  
Oct. 14 Further discussion of epistemic rhetoric; Persuasive Letter #2 due  

Week 7: Roman Rhetorical Theory  

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