# Rhetoric 101: Principles of Writing
## ZJU Summer 2023
https://courses.zju.edu.cn

"Inventions become perfect by slow improvement, and each step is itself an invention."

–Joseph Jastrow

## Who Is My Professor?

Ryan Flanagan, PhD ("Dr. F")
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WeChat: ryanf1475
Office hours: by request only

## Course Introduction

This introductory class offers basic instruction on skillsets and strategies to craft academic, Western-style arguments. We will cover topics such as idea generation, thesis statements, organization, evidence, research methods, and reshaping our writing according to different rhetorical situations.

## Course Structure and Technology

We will meet in-person with materials and assignments administered through the course management system, Learning in ZJU. This is where you will obtain your course materials, like directions and assignment sheets, and submit assignments, from major essays to small discussion posts and quizzes. Check the Homework folder there daily to stay on track.

## What Materials Do I Need?

All readings and materials will be posted to Learning in ZJU. You will also need Microsoft Word and a laptop computer to compose assignments (WPS is OK, but Word is preferred).

## Course Requirements and Assignments

One major assignment of at least 6 pages will be due on the final day of class (40% of your grade). The rest of your grade will be composed of smaller, daily assignments, homework, classwork (50%) and participation (10%).

## Attendance and Participation Policy

Attendance and participation is essential for this class. You must attend class each day; if you are not able to attend, you must contact me in advance. Any absences will be treated on a case-by-case basis and **may jeopardize your ability to pass the class.**

## Grading Policy

All assignments will be graded on a 100-point scale corresponding to letter grades based on:

| Percentage | Letter Grade |
| --- | --- |
| 98.0-100.0 | A+ |
| 93.0-97.9 | A |
| 90.0-92.9 | A- |
| 87.0-89.9 | B+ |
| 83.0-86.9 | B |
| 80.0-82.9 | B- |
| 77.0-79.9 | C+ |
| 73.0-76.9 | C |
| 70.0-72.9 | C- |
| 67.0-69.9 | D+ |
| 63.0-66.9 | D |
| 60.0-62.9 | D- |
| Below 59.9 | F |

## Academic Integrity and Documentation

Plagiarism is not tolerated and may cause you to fail the class. Plagiarism is misrepresenting another person's work as your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, and it is a serious violation of academic integrity. Using AI writing, such as from ChatGPT, also counts as plagiarism. Do not try it. Read more about plagiarism here. Test your knowledge HERE.

Thank you for reading the syllabus!

Let me know if you have questions.

I look forward to working with you!

-Dr. F.

## Course Schedule (Sep. 3 – Sept. 15, 2023)

Sep. 3: What is writing? Who made it? (You did)
- Writing as process
- Critical reading, mapping, doubting
- Prewriting, idea generation

Sep. 4: Where is writing? (Everywhere)
- The rhetorical situation (context, audience, purpose)
- Writing as conversation
- Writing as problem solving

Sep. 5: Who is my audience, and what do they want?
- Academic to academic and non-academic audiences
- Ethos, logos, pathos
- Exigency

Sep. 6: Where do I begin?
- What is a sentence?
- Introductions, thesis statements

Sept. 7: Then what?
- What is a paragraph?
- Evidence selection, evaluation
- Insight, synthesis, complexity

Sept. 8: According to whom?
- Working with sources
- Summary, paraphrase, quote

Sept 9: No Class

Sept. 10: What does it mean to argue?
- Development, focus, coherence
- Organization, transitions

Sept. 11: Any last words?
- Concessions, counterarguments
- Closing arguments

Sept. 12: Revision vs. Editing
- Self-revisions, peer review
- Editing for style and economy

Sept. 13: What is a mode?
- Multimodal writing
- Reframing for a different situation

Sept. 14: What did I just do?
- Reflecting, meta-writing
- Peer review

Sept. 15: Final reflections
- Transfer to future contexts
- Writing a course narrative