

How to Write the LLD/ENGL 100A Rhetorical Analysis Essay

This handout is designed to assist you in writing your rhetorical analysis paper. Some of the instruction given here comes from the course prompt to ensure that you meet the assignment requirements. Use the background information given here to understand the assignment. Then use the questions that follow as a supplement to the course prompt, to generate both the content and an outline for your draft.

What Is a Rhetorical Analysis?

The purpose of the rhetorical analysis essay is not to summarize a piece of writing, but to

- explore how rhetoric works;
- explore how ideas are argued and presented;
- analyze how the strategy is working to help the writer achieve his or her purpose.

What Is Rhetoric?

Rhetoric is the art or skill of speaking or writing formally and effectively,

5. What is your central argument? How did the writer use the rhetorical strategies and appeals to accomplish his or her purpose? Was the writer successful? The answers to these questions can be summarized as a thesis statement.

From this example, can you identify which rhetorical strategies and appeals the student will likely discuss?

Make sure to analyze instead of summarize your chosen piece of writing. Each paragraph in the

How Do I Edit My Draft?

When editing your writing, consider how your writing looks to someone else. What is clear to you may not be clear to others. You are writing for someone who is unfamiliar with your topic, and your instructor is evaluating you on your