

RHETORIC COMMUNICATION STUDIES (RCS)

RCS 100 Fundamentals of Public Speaking

Organization and presentation of verbal materials. Emphasizes developing performance skills through graded speaking activities. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 109 Academic Writing for Multilingual Students

Prerequisite: Completion of the Writing Placement test with a score of 1 or 2

Expository writing through genres and modes. Begins with developmental writing; ends with preparation for WRT 111. Course may fulfill AHFL for international students only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 109S Writing Studio Multilingual

Supplemental one-on-one and small group tutoring for RCS 109 students. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit
Semester Hours: 1

RCS 110 College Writing A

Prerequisite: Completion of WRT 109, Written Communication test with a minimum score of 5, or SAT EBRW Section Score of 500

Expository writing in major rhetorical forms generally based on analytical reading in various disciplines and intended to sharpen communication skills required for college work and later use. Course may fulfill AHFL for international students only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 110S Writing Studio

Supplemental one-on-one and small group tutoring for RCS 110 students. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit
Semester Hours: 1

RCS 111 College Writing and Research

Prerequisite: Completion of Written Communication A
Further expository writing with particular emphasis on methods of research and effective use of source materials. Should be completed before junior year. Course may fulfill AHFL for international students only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 120 Introduction to Speech Communication Theory and Practice

Introduces field of speech communication, including its history, major theories, and primary contexts. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 210 Interpersonal Communication

Introduces theory and practice of interpersonal communication. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 220 Intercultural Communication

Introduces theory and practice of intercultural communication. Emphasizes training and application to improve skills. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 230 Science Communication

Practical course in communication for science students. Restricted to Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Kinesiology freshmen and sophomores only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 240 Persuasion and Social Influence

Covers theories, principles, and strategies of social influence as they relate to everyday life. Can be taken for letter grade only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 250 Spin Doctoring

Focuses on understanding and interpretation of current events filtered through mastery of written and spoken language. Covers techniques of analysis, substantiation, and synthesis. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 260 Plato to Hashtags: Intro to Rhetoric

This course is an introduction to rhetorical history and theory from Greek antiquity to the present, including rhetorics of the Americas. Students will analyze contemporary multimodal (written, oral, visual) performances and arguments using rhetorical theories, in order to understand how individuals and groups communicate belief and action in civic life and in other public discourses. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 265 Decolonial Rhetorics

Decolonial rhetorics introduces students to theories and practices of decolonial rhetorical traditions (e.g. LatinX, indigenous) that challenge Eurocentric thinking and influence. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 270 Peer Tutoring in Writing

Prerequisite: Completion of Written Communication B
Explores theories of creative writing while critically examining their orientations, preferences, and practices. May be taken for letter grade only. Not Challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Audit
Semester Hours: 4

RCS 300 Advanced Argumentative Writing for Public Discourse

Prerequisite: Completion of Written Communication A, Written Communication B, and RCS 260

This advanced writing course is designed for students who intend to use their writing and communication skills to effect change through public discourse. Students study theories and practices of written argumentation, and compose arguments on contemporary issues, engaging with public audiences through written, digital, and oral modes. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 310 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication

Focuses on various theories, communication concepts, and academic research to explore and understand the more harmful and dysfunctional aspects of interpersonal relationships. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 330 Interviewing Princpl & Prac

Examines interviewing using various paradigms, including industry and academic research. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 350 Argumentation and Debate

Rhetorical principles of argumentation in theory and practice. Participation in forensics tournaments advised. For law students and those interested in engaging in rational discussion and reasoned advocacy. Course may be repeated multiple times for up to 16 semester hours of credit. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 360 Leadership Communication

Prerequisite: Co-enrollment in one Upper Division RCS course
Adapts academic theories from rhetoric and communication studies to leadership. Requires a minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 380 Feminist Rhetorics

Feminist Rhetorics examines the rhetorical strategies of activists during the first, second, and third waves of U.S. feminist movements. The course explores tactics feminists used to confront ideological opposition as well as the cultural contexts and historical developments of feminism in American culture. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 381 Research Writing in Sciences

Prerequisite: Written Communication B

This course focuses on analysis and practice of various forms of scientific discourse, with attention to research methods, design of papers, technical style, citation conventions, and editing strategies. Students develop their command of scientific discourse through multi-stage writing processes, rhetorical communication, active in-class learning workshops, peer review, and individual feedback. Also BIOL 381. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit

Semester Hours: 2

RCS 390 Queer Theory and BIPOC Rhetorics

This course is an introduction to the study of sexuality, queer theory, and the interdisciplinary field of queer and LGBTQ studies. The course historicizes LGBTQ+ scholarship and activism and provides a theoretical framework for understanding contemporary LGBTQ+ issues. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 391 The Washington Center LEAD Colloquium

Engages students registered at the University of La Verne and enrolled at The Washington Center in the wealth of personal, professional, and academic experiences offered as part of TWC's LEAD Colloquium. Meets 4 to 8 hours on Fridays during the student's TWC semester in the nation's capital and includes distinguished lectures, site visits, public policy dialogues, networking, informational interviews, strengths assessment, a career readiness portfolio, resume building, and a capstone reflection. Open to TWC Participants only. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 399 Independent Study

Student-designed courses approved by a faculty member. Prior approval of goals, objectives, procedures, and assessment plan as directed in the Independent Study Manual is required. May be taken multiple times with a different topic for credit. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit

Semester Hours: 1-4

RCS 400 Voices of Revolution

Throughout history, audiences have been compelled into action by the powerful words of great leaders. Yet, in the age of the Internet, cell phones, and sound bites, these voices appear to be silent. Through the academic intersection of historical contextualization and applied rhetorical theory, this course will examine these historical speeches. In the process, the application of the devices and mechanisms employed in these speeches will be analyzed, along with their effect in emboldening a new generation of orators to take their place on the podium, behind the lectern and in creating their own history. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 410 Advanced Interpersonal Communication

Examines interpersonal communication, focusing on specific relational contexts such as romantic, interpersonal, family, friendship, workplace, and stepfamily. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 420 Health Communication

Introduces interpersonal, organizational, persuasion, and media communication processes within the study and practice of issues in health and medicine.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 450 Political Communication

Focuses on various theories, communication concepts, and academic research in relation to political speeches, to public discourses, debates, the election cycle, and the binary discourse that relates from historical to the contemporary political structure. Letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 460 Rhetorical Criticism

Examines fundamentals of rhetorical criticism. Filters rhetorical methods through contemporary events and controversies using critical thinking and discourse. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Credit/No Credit, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 490 Special Topics in Rhetoric and Communication Studies

Selected topics in rhetoric and communication studies relating to current issues or special fields of study. Offerings are faculty designed courses in areas of expertise. May be taken four times with a different topic for credit. May be taken for letter grade only. Not challengeable.

Grade Mode: Letter, Letter, Audit

Semester Hours: 4

RCS 499 Senior Project

Culminating activity required by majors in all departments. Papers/theses/projects researched, prepared, and written under the guidance of a faculty member. Comprehensive exams or recitals required in some departments. Academically, Students must be in Good Standing to enroll in 499. Can be taken for letter grade only.

Grade Mode: Letter, Letter, Audit

Semester Hours: 4