

RHETORIC, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Rhetoric Minor provides undergraduate students an opportunity to acquire special competence in the history, theory, and criticism of civic discourse and cultural practices. It brings together courses from both the Department of English and the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, from which students may learn about the nature and function of rhetoric in politics, the professions, the classroom, and the media. The list of course offerings is designed to feature applied as well as theoretical approaches, and allows students to explore the subject in breadth as well as depth. Students completing the minor will command a greater knowledge of an appreciation for the significance of rhetoric as a central component of civic life.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to develop effective writing and speaking skills.
- You are interested in learning about persuasive communication.
- You want to learn effective methods of influence.

Program Requirements

| Requirement | Credits |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Requirements for the Minor | 18 |

Requirements for the Minor

A minimum of 6 credits at the 400 level; maximum of 6 credits may be double-counted.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|
| Prescribed Courses | | |
| <i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i> | | |
| CAS 301 | Rhetorical Theory | 3 |
| ENGL 471 | Rhetorical Traditions | 3 |
| Additional Courses | | |
| <i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i> | | |
| Select three of the following: | | 9 |
| CAS 175 | Persuasion and Propaganda | |
| CAS 311 | Methods of Rhetorical Criticism | |
| CAS 321 | Rhetoric and Law | |
| CAS 375 | Rhetoric and Public Controversy | |
| CAS 411 | Rhetorical Criticism | |
| CAS 415 | Rhetoric of Film and Television | |
| CAS 420 | Rhetorical Theory | |
| CAS 426W | Communication Ethics | |
| CAS 475 | Studies in Public Address | |

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|----------|---|
| CAS 478 | Contemporary U.S. Political Rhetoric |
| ENGL 415 | Advanced Nonfiction Writing |
| ENGL 416 | Science Writing |
| ENGL 417 | The Editorial Process |
| ENGL 420 | Writing for the Web |
| ENGL 472 | Current Theories of Writing and Reading |
| ENGL 473 | Rhetorical Approaches to Discourse |
| ENGL 474 | Issues in Rhetoric and Composition |

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

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|---|---|
| <i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i> | |
| Select 3 credits of the following in consultation with adviser: | 3 |
| CAS 494H or ENGL 310 | Research Topics |
| CAS 499 or ENGL 499 Foreign Study-English | Foreign Studies |
| ENGL 487W | Senior Seminar |
| LA 495 | Undergraduate Field Experience or Practicum |

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545
Use the Liberal Arts Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

Career Paths

CAS students are change makers: analysts, strategists, persuaders, facilitators, collaborators, connectors, and scholars. The CAS minor serves as a valuable supplement to a wide array of majors, and helps to equip students for success in the work force, graduate school, and civic life. CAS courses provide students with the theories, methods, practical tools, and experiences to understand the roots of social conflict and the sources of well-being.

Careers

A CAS undergraduate minor helps to prepare students for careers in academics, law, sales, corporate communication, health and human services, community activism, and digital technology. Students

graduating from CAS studies may work as analysts, strategists, facilitators, collaborators, or negotiators.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A MINOR IN RHETORIC (<https://cas.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/careers-in-cas/>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

The CAS minors supplement a wide variety of major fields in its preparation of students for graduate study in communication science or rhetoric, as well as in law, public policy, behavioral science, health and human services, human development, business, social work, and other related fields.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://cas.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/careers-in-cas/>)

Contact

University Park

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<https://cas.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/minors/>