

Sp Cm 350 Rhetorical Theory  
Group Contract & First Abstract

Meet as a group, appoint one member to be temporary secretary, and work through the Basic Questions to Ask/Preparing an Abstract" for Monday's reading. That is:

1. Identify the text (author, title, date)
2. Main point.
3. Definition of rhetoric.
4. Significance.
5. Main arguments (in detail).
6. Does the *form* of the text support or contradict the *ideas* of the text?
7. What do you think?

Note that you may not want to proceed in this exact order—start with the easiest, and work to the hardest. The secretary should record your ideas (writing neatly, to the extent possible). At the end, list all the members "actively participating".

After you finish your abstract, answer the questions below. You may also want to check out the excellent advice on "Coping with Hitchhikers" in your group, available on the course homepage.

**Group members:**

**NAME**

**Email (write neatly)**

**Regular group meeting place & time:**

**(On back) Inventory of group skills: What does your group know about "rhetorical theory" already? What previous coursework and/or experience does your group contain? What are your group's strengths?**

**(On back) Form your group contract: What's important for your group? What does the group expect of each member? What does each member expect from the group?**