

Rhetoric 12
Mr. Simperts
Syllabus for 2022-23 School Year

Teacher Information:

School email: bsimperts@pcsvirginia.org

School phone: 757-565-2900 ext. 322

Location: Building 3000, Room 6

Course Purpose: We study Rhetoric in order to reason well and to recognize the good. We study literary works to provide the best examples of thought and rhetorical expression. Students will be enabled express themselves with beauty, skill, and cogency.

Topics of Study: Students will study Rhetoric and literature from the 19th and 20th centuries in order to improve their language and composition skills. They will also write and present a Senior Thesis.

Supplies Needed: Students will need to bring to class:

- Textbooks (as assigned)
- Rhetoric section in 3-ring binder/loose-leaf paper
- Wide-ruled composition book for notes
- Blue or black ink pens and #2 pencils for in-class assignments

Grading: Homework 10%/Notebook 10%/Participation 40%/Assessments 40%

Late Work: Standard for Rhetoric School is work must be turned in the following day to receive a 64%

Absences: The student handbook clearly addresses absences and tardies from class.

All absences are disruptive to the educational process and every effort should be made to attend school regularly. *Dated notes stating the specific reason for the absence and signed by a parent or guardian will be required on the first day of return to school.*

If the number of absences (excused or unexcused) exceeds 15% of the number of days in the quarter, the Head of School will schedule a meeting with the student's parents to determine whether the student will receive credit for the quarter.

Including, but not limited to, illness, family emergencies, and deaths in the family will be considered excused absences. Family trips which cannot be taken at any other time and which are approved by the Head of School (Extended Leave Form) at least one week in advance will be considered excused absences. Any other absences will be considered unexcused. When extended absences are voluntary, teachers should be notified **at least one week beforehand and all schoolwork (including tests, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.) should be completed within the time specified by the teacher**. For work not completed by the teacher's designated time, a grade of zero will be entered in the grade book. Teachers may provide students with work in advance of an absence but are not required to do so. In general, we recommend that families coordinate travel schedules with the school calendar to avoid voluntary extended absences.

Miscellaneous: Students are expected to be familiar with the PCS Honor Code and to adhere to it in both spirit and practice.