

Paper 2: Rhetorical Analysis

English W131

Instructor: Ryan P. Shepherd

- **Assignment:**
 - Select an article with a clear argument. Good places to look include:
 - The opinion section of a newspaper.
 - Political magazines.
 - Journals that deal with topics that interest you.
 - Carefully read the article, keeping in mind the reading strategies detailed on pages 32-38 of *The Call to Write*.
 - Thoroughly analyze the rhetoric of the article. *This does not mean summarize the article; in fact, your paper should include very little summary.* Instead, areas to explore in your paper include:
 - Evaluation of the writer's purpose for writing this piece.
 - Analysis of the writer's facts and claims.
 - Evaluation of the writer's evidence to support any claims.
 - Analysis of the writer's intended audience.
 - Analysis of the writer's language.
- **Purpose:** to familiarize the student with the structure of an argument in order to better prepare him or her for future argumentative writing. This assignment aims not only to demonstrate an argument to the student but also to help develop strategies for constructing arguments.
- **Requirements:**
 - FOUR to SIX typed pages formatted according the guidelines of the syllabus.
 - The audience for this piece is the class itself. Voice, tone, and style should be educated and academic.
 - No outside research, aside from the article itself, is required or even recommended.
- **Grading Criteria:**
 - Suggested Criteria:
 - Identification and Evaluation of the Writer's Purpose
 - Identification of the Writer's Facts and Claims
 - Evaluation of the Writer's Evidence
 - Concrete Use of Examples from the Text
 - Other Criteria:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

- _____
- _____

- **Due Dates:**

- **September 23**: Article to be analyzed for instructor review
- **October 2**: First draft for peer review
- **October 9**: Second draft for instructor commentary

Ryan Shepherd RPShep@yahoo.com