Peer Review Guidelines

The Rhetorical Analysis

Help Make it Better!

**Purpose.** Peer Review offers you the opportunity to provide and receive constructive feedback on the Rhetorical Analysis Assignment. The purpose of peer review is for you to help each other advance beyond the current draft toward the finished paper. Writing is never done in a vacuum, and peer reviews demonstrate the way in which all writing is social, part of a community dialogue, and subject to change based on the responses of the particular audience. There is a triangular relationship among writer, reader, and text, with each contributing to the balance of the whole. Peer reviews make this dynamic visible. At the same time, through peer reviews, you learn effective writing strategies to apply to future papers.

*For Peer Review in a computer classroom: Get into groups of two or three. Download all the drafts of the group onto your laptops or computers. Then, as a group, first talk about your major concerns. What do you want your peer reviewers to help you with for the revision? Then, each person should begin reading one of the essays in class. After reading the whole essay through once, start inserting comments on the document using the **Microsoft word comment function** or you can type in comments with a color font. At the end of class: 1) **Save** all the commented drafts with a new name on your computer. For example: **obrienPRca.doc** – this would indicate Alyssa O’Brien’s essay, Peer Reviewed by Christine Alfano. 2) **Email** your commented paper back to the writer (or post it on a class discussion board). Write a short paragraph comment in the message of the email or post and then attach the commented essay. 3) Also complete the Peer Review form below by **typing your answers** and saving it on your computer with a new filename. Email or post that back to your peer review partners as well.

**Advice:** *Don’t focus exclusively on grammar and mechanics.* Your goal is not to **edit** but rather to offer **constructive** and **helpful feedback**: use a positive, encouraging tone, explain why a change should be made, and offer suggestions for effective revisions!

See the next page for specific peer review questions on the rhetorical analysis assignment.
Rhetorical Analysis Peer Review Form: Directed Feedback

Peer Reviewer’s (Your) Name: ___________________________ Email/Phone: ___________________________
Writer’s Name: ___________________________ Writer’s Email/Phone: ___________________________
Writer’s Essay Title: ____________________________________________________

First Impressions: What writing and rhetorical strategies work really well in this essay?

Feedback on the Draft:

1. **Title**: What do you think of the title? Is it interesting, informative, and indicative of the writer’s stance?

2. **Introduction and Thesis**: Read through the introduction and assess the thesis. Does the thesis make a clear and compelling argument about the use of rhetorical appeals in the visual text being examined? How so/how not?

3. **Argument and Evidence**: Is the thesis well supported in the body of the essay with specific visual evidence? How so/how not? Does the argument use the rhetorical terms we’ve learned in class?

4. **Persuasion and Assessment**: Do you find the analysis and argument convincing? How so/how not? What can you recommend that would make the essay more compelling?

5. **Closing remarks**:
   A) What do you think the writer might work on for next time and why?

   B) Your reflection: what did you learn from reading this essay that you did not know before, either about the text under analysis or about writing strategies in the essay?