

# 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
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CAS 301	Rhetorical Theory	3
ENGL 471	Rhetorical Traditions	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
<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	

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

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select 3 credits of the following in consultation with adviser.	
CAS 494H	Research Topics
or ENGL 310	
CAS 499	Foreign Studies
or ENGL 499 Foreign Study--English	
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/>