

Veritas Academy
Senior Rhetoric Thesis
Dr. Matthew L. Burt, Instructor

Class, during this year you will be reviewing and integrating the learning gained over the entirety of your education to this point. You will do this by producing a thesis that uses your basic grammar, vocabulary, critical thinking, imagination, research, persuasive writing, and speech skills. At the end of the year after having written a twenty-page thesis you will present it as a twenty-minute speech before a live audience of faculty, parents, and peers—and defend it.

This is the process you will use keeping in mind the five canons of rhetoric in the following stages

- Choose a subject that you can make into a thesis statement that intelligent and learned people can honestly argue its pro and cons.
- Determine which of the topics Aristotle identifies to build the argument that will prove the legitimacy of your thesis statement.
- Write a thesis proposal that outlines the approach you will take for your thesis along with a initial bibliography. **Due Week Six**
- Plan to spend approximately two-three hours per week reading and assimilating your research. During this time period we will review the Five Canons and apply them to your thesis project
- Annotated bibliography will be **Due Week 12**
- Rough Outline **Due Week 14**
- Antithesis Rough Draft Due **Week 15**
- Mentor Meeting Report #1 **Due Week 16**
- Antithesis Final Draft **Due Week 17 (Semester Exam)**
- Antithesis Oral Presentation **Week Due week 20**
- Thesis Rough Draft **Due Week 24**
- Mentor Meeting Report **Due Week 25**
- Thesis Final Draft **Due Week 27**
- Oral Presentation Practice **Week 28**
- Oral Presentations **Week 29**