FIELD XIII: RHETORIC

The Field XIII candidacy exam in Rhetoric envisions the field to include the study of rhetoric in the classical and other historical periods, along with the study of rhetoric in contemporary contexts and in an age of new media. Successful candidates will demonstrate the ability to describe accurately, synthesize, and critique work ranging from Plato to present-day scholarship and theory. Successful candidates will write coherent essays that respond directly to questions posed, argue a point, place readings in dialog with one another, and demonstrate a deep understanding of rhetorical issues.

General Overviews


Primary Texts

Aristotle, Rhetoric

Augustine, On Christian Doctrine, Book IV


Cicero, On Oratory.

Erasmus, Desiderius, Copia: Foundations of the Abundant Style.


Plato, *Gorgias*.

Plato, *Phaedrus*.

Quintilian, *Institutes of Oratory*, Books II, X, and XII.


Weaver, Richard, *The Ethics of Rhetoric*.

**Secondary Historical Readings**


**Digital Rhetoric**

University Press, 2011.


Rhetorical Situation


