

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN RHETORIC

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**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/english-rhetoric-spanish/graduate-programs/phd-in-rhetoric/>

Rhetoric provides the coordinating force for the study of composition, linguistics, literary theory, and literature within the field of English. The doctoral program in rhetoric prepares graduate students to be scholars and leaders of discourse and technology which utilizes language to inform, persuade, and explore ideas. In keeping with the university's mission of empowering women, the program also encourages scholarship on gender issues in the field of rhetoric. Graduates are qualified to pursue professions in both academic and non-academic settings: teaching and research in institutions of higher education, administering writing programs, using technology to teach writing; or pursuing careers in writing and editing in business, government, or non-profit settings.

Coursework consists of a core set of rhetoric classes, a self-designed area of specialization, and electives to ensure students have both a broad knowledge base and a deep understanding of their desired sub-field(s). Comprehensive exams in the history/theory of rhetoric, applied rhetoric, and a self-designed area take place at the end of formal coursework. Students can expect a minimum of 12 credit hours to complete the dissertation, including 3 hours to craft the dissertation prospectus.

We offer a range of face-to-face, online, and hybrid graduate courses to allow our working, commuting, and parenting students the opportunity to balance rigorous academic coursework with their busy lives. Our face-to-face graduate courses are offered one day per week, typically in late afternoon or evening.

***Prospective and current students may apply for a Distance Learning designation that allows for the Ph.D. in Rhetoric to be completed fully online. A limited number of virtual seats in face-to-face courses will be guaranteed to Distance Learners. For more information, please contact the Graduate Program Coordinator.***