

Course Description

Course:	Engl 309: Sec 001	Instructor:	Dr. Scott Graham
Times:	MWF 1200-1300	Contact:	grahamss@mail.ubc.ca 604.822.4091
Lecture:	Hebb 10	Office:	BUTO 524
		Office Hours:	MWF 1400-1600, by appt

[P]racticing scientists are only a fraction of those who contribute to what science is. The other contributors are not just those people who use science more or less as scientists intend, such as technologists, physicians, and policymakers. [Rhetorical studies of science] also takes seriously the rest of the population who consume science by reading *The Tao of Physics*, watching “Tomorrow’s World,” and eating fat-free muffins.

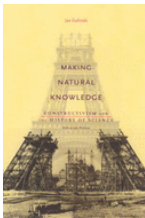
—Steve Fuller, *The Philosophy of Science and Technology Studies*

As Steve Fuller suggests above, science, technology, and medicine are each part of vastly complex cultural enterprises which extend far beyond what is done in the laboratory or what happens in scientific journal articles. Scientists, technologists, doctors, patients, regulators, policy makers, journalists, and the general public each interact with and participate in technical, scientific, and medical discourses in a wide variety of ways. This course examines the role of debate and argument both within scientific communities and in the larger contexts that surround those communities. More specifically, students will explore 1) the modes of communication which facilitate successful collaboration among scientific disciplines, 2) different styles of argument in science-policy debates, and 3) the discourses of scientific ideology and their impacts on the general public.

In investigating these questions, we will explore a series of case studies in the rhetorics of physics, genetics, and medicine. In so doing, we will also address long-standing questions in rhetorical studies of science, technology, and medicine and explore how scholars of rhetoric can contribute to interdisciplinary Science, Technology, and Medicine Studies.

Course Details

Required Materials



Golinski, *Making Natural Knowledge*



Course packet (bookstore)

Assignments

Class Participation (10%): Regular, punctual, and engaged attendance is required and expected for students in English 309. As such, class participation is an important part of your grade. You are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions every day. If you do not contribute to class discussions frequently, you cannot receive a 90 or higher for the course.

Two Reading Synthesis Papers (25%): Over the course of the term, you will need to hand in 2 reading synthesis papers. These are relatively short 3-4 page dissections of arguments from the class readings. (More details TBA).

Midterm (30%) and Final Exams (35%): Comprehensive midterm and final examinations will be administered and contribute substantively to your overall grade.

Policies

- Regular and punctual attendance is expected and required. Students failing to meet these requirements may be excluded from final examinations.
- Remember to silence all cell phones and other electronic devices before entering the classroom.
- Plagiarism is unacceptable in any form. Consult the Faculty of Arts website (www.arts.ubc.ca) for further information.

Tentative Calendar

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
W Sept7	What is Rhetoric	
F Sept9	What is Rhetoric	Glossary Harris 3-21
M Sept12	What is Rhetoric of Science	Keith & Regh
W Sept14	What is Rhetoric of Science	Segal
F Sept16	What is Rhetoric of Science	Fahnestock
M Sept19	Making Knowledge	Khun, IX (email) Khun, X (CP)
W Sept21	Making Knowledge	Golinski xvii-26
F Sept23	Making Knowledge	Golinski 27-46 RS1.1
M Sept26	Making Knowledge	Golinski 79-102
W Sept28	Making Knowledge	Golinski 133-161
F Sept30	Making Knowledge	Gross RS2.1
M Oct3	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Harris 22-80
W Oct5	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Harris 80-122
F Oct7	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Galison

		RS3.1
M Oct10	Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving
W Oct12	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam
F Oct14	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Star & Griesemer (Lib)
M Oct17	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Wilson and Herndl (Lib)
W Oct19	Incommensurability & Ontology	Mol, Ontological Politics
F Oct21	Incommensurability & Ontology	Mol, Cutting
M Oct24	Incommensurability & Ontology	Mol, Doing
W Oct26	Rhetoric and Incommensurability	Graham and Herndl (Email)
F Oct28	Science and Public Policy	Bradshaw & Borchers (web)
M Oct31	Science and Public Policy	Keränen, <i>Scientific Characters</i>
W Nov2	Science and Public Policy	Ceccarelli (Lib)
F Nov4	Science and Public Policy	Blythe, Grabil & Riley (Lib)
M Nov7	Science and Public Policy	Cambrosio, Limoges, Pronovost (Lib)
W Nov9	Science and Public Policy	Collins and Evans (Lib)
F Nov11	Remembrance Day	Remembrance Day
M Nov14	Science and Public Policy	Herndl <i>et al</i> (Email)
W Nov16	Science and Public Policy	Koerber (Lib)
F Nov18	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Kinsella (Lib)
M Nov21	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Scott (Lib)
W Nov23	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Latour, Technology is Society Made Durable
F Nov 25	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Pickering
M Nov28	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Graham
W Nov30	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Haraway, 49-78
F Dec2	Rhetoric and Technoscience	Haraway, 78-118