Course Description

In examining the rhetoric of social movements, this course asks whether the rhetor, like the author, is dead. To do this, the course considers how social movement rhetorics challenge both classical and contemporary theories of rhetoric, particularly when it comes to delivery and audience. Looking at classical rhetorical theory from Aristotle and Cicero as well as more contemporary theories from Booth, Corbett, Kinneavy, and Burke alongside activist rhetoric from the abolitionists, suffragists, Black Panthers, Gay Liberation Front, United Farm Workers, Black Lives Matter, and more, this course considers the relationship between rhetoric, media, power, and the body.