This course will survey and examine the history and development of rhetoric (the art of persuasion) over various stages in history: pre-Socratic Sophists in Greek antiquity; classical Roman rhetorics; rhetoric from the Middle Ages; Rennaissance and "Enlightenment" rhetorics; modern rhetorics; and contemporary rhetorics. During the course of our historical survey, we will consider both the practical application of rhetoric within the context of the period (praxis) and the theory which supports/supported such (theoria). Students will leave the course with a broad depth and breadth of knowledge regarding the lineage of the rhetorical tradition.