This two-semester, six-credit writing intensive sequence features a fall RHE 306 “Research & Writing” course in argumentation that situates rhetoric as an art of civic discourse, followed by the spring semester RHE 309K “Rhetoric of American Identity” featuring an exciting series of case studies in race, gender, and ethnicity. Over the two courses, students analyze the various positions held in any public debate and learn to advocate their own positions effectively. In the fall, students explore the ethics of argumentation and what it means to “fairly” represent someone with whom they disagree. By the spring, students are ready to analyze and compose arguments about American identity and identity formation, both personal and cultural. The goal is to foster students’ abilities to analyze arguments presented by others and to write sound and effective arguments of their own — abilities that contribute meaningfully to their academic, professional, personal, and civic lives.
CONDUCTING RESEARCH
Know where to look.

EVALUATING SOURCES
Which arguments are worth using and why?

RHETORICAL SITUATIONS
Good writers know their audience.

ANALYZING ARGUMENTS
Deep dives into logic, organization, and reasoning.

DRAFTING AND REVISIONING
Practice makes perfect.

GIVING AND RECEIVING FEEDBACK
Learning through peer instruction.

FORMULATING A RESEARCH QUESTION
Keep it simple, keep it real.

IDENTIFYING UNDERLYING VALUES
What big ideas underlie the argument?

TRANSFERABILITY
3 + 3 College Credits (6 total possible)
English 1301 + 1302
UT RHE 306 + RHE 309K

PRE-REQUISITES
English I
English II