Today

• Declamation

• Quintilian

• 2nd Sophistic

• Longinus

In grave Quintilian’s copious works we find
The justest rules and the clearest method join’d
--- Alexander Pope
Declamation

- 2 forms: suasoria and controversia
- Performed by teachers, these became an art form
- Fantastic/unreal themes
Declamation

• Sententiae (a type of proverb)
  – Ars longa, vita brevis.  
    *Art is long, life is short.* (Seneca)

  – Facilius est multa facere quam diu.  
    *It is easier to do many things than to do one for a long time.* (Quintilian)
Quintilian

Born in 35 CE in Calagurris, Spain (now Calahorra)
Quintilian

- Went to Rome at age 16
- Returns and starts teaching in Spain
- Returns to Rome with Galba
- Appointed to a chair of rhetoric by Vespasian in 72
- Retires in 88
- Dies in 95-100??
Institutes of Oratory

James J. Murphy describes it as "a treatise on education, a manual of rhetoric, a reader's guide to the best authors, and a handbook of the moral duties of the orator."
Book One

1.1 Elementary Education
1.2 Public vs. Private Education
1.3 Capacity and Treatment of Students
1.4 Grammar
1.5 Purity of Language and Vices of Diction
1.6 Origin and Usage of Words
1.7 Spelling
1.8 Reading, Authors to be Read
1.9 Composition
1.10 Studies Adjunct to Rhetoric
1.11 Lessons from the Theatre: Delivery, Gesture, Recitation, Gymnastics
1.12 Studying Multiple Subjects Simultaneously
Book Twelve

12.1 The Great Orator as Good Man
12.2 Strengthening Character; Philosophical Study
12.3 The Study of Civil Law
12.4 Orator Prepared with Examples and Precedents
12.5 Firmness; Presence of Mind; Cultivating Natural Advantages
12.6 The Orator's Age
12.7 Causes to be Undertaken; Remuneration
12.8 Careful Study of the Case
12.9 Not Aiming for Applause; Restraining Invective; Preparation Through Writing and Extemporaneous Speaking
12.10 Styles of Oratory
12.11 Retirement from Speaking; Successful Training of an Orator
• Psychology
• Speaking/writing for the media
• Argument and public speaking
• Multiple languages (as a child) for broad cultural knowledge
• Study of American public address
• Solid technique, but flexible style
• Start in elementary school
• Study popular culture/literature
• Art and music
• Grammar
• Service learning (to develop a civic attitude)
Institutes of Oratory

• Quintilian follows Cicero
  – He accepts his division of the canons
  – He accepts the three types of oratory
  – He focuses mainly on forensic oratory

• “Rhetoric would be indeed a small affair and easy if attainment if it could be embodied in one short code …Thus the most important quality for the orator is judgment”
Institutes of Oratory

• Vir bonus

• Techniques
  – Indefinite and definite questions
  – Bases
  – Proof/Evidence

• Elecutio is most important
Institutes of Oratory

• Enmity for philosophers

• Frustration with Grammarians

• Attempts at educational reform
Second Sophistic

- a cultural and literary movement in Greek society
- begins in the 1st century
- The second sophistic orators were cultural conservatives that valorized the greatness of Hellenistic culture
On the Sublime
(Longinus 213-273)

The effect of elevated language upon an audience is not persuasion but transport. At every time and in every way imposing speech, with the spell it throws over us, prevails over that which aims at persuasion and gratification. Our persuasions we can usually control, but the influences of the sublime bring power and irresistible might to bear, and reign supreme over every hearer.
On the Sublime

Sublimity flashing forth at the right moment scatters everything before it like a thunderbolt, and at once displays the power of the orator in all its plenitude
On the Sublime

• 5 sources of sublime writing
  – great thoughts
  – strong emotions
  – certain figures of thought and speech
  – noble diction (word choice)
  – dignified word arrangement