

ENVS 100W Section 1 – Environmental Research & Writing - Spring 2008

Department of Environmental Studies San Jose State University

Instructor:	Kelly Bloom	Office Hours: Office hours by appointment, Tuesday – Thursday See eboard for my teaching schedule.
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PREREQUISITES

ENGL 1B (with a grade of C or better); Completion of Core GE; Satisfaction of Writing Skills Test requirement; Upper division standing, Declared major in Environmental Studies

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced research and writing skills for future environmental professionals. Focus on issues, literature and challenges associated with environmental writing. Emphasis on writing for technical and general audiences.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To satisfy the University's Written Communication II requirement, students will be required to write a minimum of 8000 words with an overall grade of "C" or better. Students will make at least two oral presentations. One presentation will take place during class and the other will be part of a 100W Research Symposium that highlights the scholarly writing efforts of the current semester's ENVS 100W students. In addition, students will evaluate classmates' writing on a variety of assignments through the use of peer reviews.

All of these assignments are designed to provide practice in critical reading, thinking, and writing strategies necessary to plan and execute purposeful writing. Purposeful writing includes analyzing research, generating ideas, developing a thesis, as well as organizing, evaluating, using, and documenting supporting materials.

SJSU STUDIES AREA Z GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. *Goals:* Students will develop advanced proficiency in college-level writing and appropriate contemporary research strategies and methodologies to communicate effectively to both specialized and general audiences. Written Communication II should reinforce and advance the abilities developed in Written Communication 1A and 1B, and broaden and deepen these to include mastery of the discourse peculiar to the discipline in which the course is taught.
2. *Student Learning:* Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate college-level proficiency.
3. Refine competencies developed in Written Communication 1A and 1B throughout the course in all writing and speaking activities.

4. Express (explain, analyze, develop and criticize) ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse.
5. Organize and develop essays and documents for both professional and general audiences, including appropriate editorial standards for citing primary and secondary sources.

OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and use specialized reference sources in the field Environmental Studies.
2. Develop a resume and cover letter.
3. Formulate a critical analysis of a published article(s).
4. Manage research resources.
5. Write a formal, scholarly paper using appropriate format.
6. Prepare and deliver an oral presentation.
7. Create a professional poster that highlights scholarly writing efforts.
8. Compose a professional persuasive letter.
9. Create and critique an environmental blog.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

While there is no required text for this class, students will be required to copy and/or download readings from various sources throughout the semester. Students will also be expected to consult websites related to writing style guidelines.

EVALUATION METHODS FOR LEARNING AND GRADING PURPOSES

Students will have the opportunity to earn points via class participation, oral presentations, writing assignments, and examinations. Because this class is intended to be writing-intensive, a majority of the possible points (at least 75%) will come from written assignments.

COURSE GRADE

All writing workshops are graded ABC/NC. Performance that merits a grade lower than a "C" will receive a "No Credit" for 100W. Please note that University and Departmental guidelines require a serious and compelling reason to drop a course. A course cannot be dropped because of grades alone.

Grade Awarded:

90-100 points = A

80-89 points = B

70-79 points = C

69 and below = No Credit

PROTOCOL FOR SUBMISSION OF LATE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

1. All papers are due during class time on the date indicated in the course calendar or as otherwise indicated by the instructor. Any late papers that are accepted by the instructor will be graded down as follows:
 - 10% off the points earned if submitted after the assigned class time and date and by 4:00pm **the following consecutive day**. (This means Wednesday.)
 - 20% off the points if submitted by 4:00pm on **the second consecutive day after it was due**. (This means Thursday.)
 - **No papers will be accepted after the deadline on the second day.**
 - All late papers must be time and date stamped and signed by the departmental secretary in SPXC 50. Make sure that the paper is then placed in the assigned instructor mailbox. **DO NOT SUBMIT LATE PAPERS DIRECTLY TO THE INSTRUCTOR.**
 - **DO NOT EMAIL ASSIGNMENTS UNLESS YOU HAVE DISCUSSED YOUR SITUATION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR BEFOREHAND.** Emailed assignments will not be accepted and point deductions will remain in effect until a paper copy is turned in.

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, or DEPARTMENT POLICY INFORMATION:

Academic Integrity Statement (from Office of Judicial Affairs):

“Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on can be found at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act:

“If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.”

Cell Phones:

Students are required turn their cell phones off or put them on vibrate mode while in class. They will not answer their phones in class. **Text messaging and playing games are also prohibited. Students whose phones disrupt the course may be asked to leave the classroom, will not earn points for that day, and may be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.**

Personal Computer Use:

In the classroom, faculty allows students to use computers only for class-related activities. These include activities such as taking notes on the lecture underway, following the lecture on Web-based PowerPoint slides that the instructor has posted, and finding Web sites to which the instructor directs students at the time of the lecture.

Students who use their computers for other activities or who abuse the equipment in any way at a minimum will be asked to leave the class and will lose participation points for the day, and, at a maximum, will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University for disrupting the course. (Such referral can lead to suspension from the University.) *Students are urged to report to their instructors computer use that they regard as inappropriate (i.e., used for activities that are not class related).*

Library and Online Research Requirement

Library and online research are encouraged to complete this course.

Tina Peterson - Reference Librarian

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408.808.2099

Student Rights and Responsibilities

<http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/s90-5.htm>