

San Jose State University: English 96KQ (GE Area C2)  
Writers of the Sky: Pilots, Planes, Literature and Art  
Fall 2009

Instructor: Kelly Harrison

Section: 1

Times: TR 13:30-14:45

Place: CL 127

Luca Vezzuto, Peer Mentor

Office: FO222 924-4496

Office hours: T 4:30-5:30, by appointment

**FINAL EXAM Tuesday, December 15, 12:15-14:30**

Email: [kelly.harrison@sjsu.edu](mailto:kelly.harrison@sjsu.edu)

Website: [www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harrison](http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harrison)

The Peer Mentor center is located in the Academic Success Center in Clark Hall

Center Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10:00am-3:45pm

Tuesday evening, 6:00pm-8:00pm

PMC Phone: (408) 924-2198

### Required texts and materials

- *West With the Night*, Beryl Markham ISBN 0865471185
- *Wind, Sand and Stars*, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry ISBN 0151970874
- *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, ISBN 978-0-7432-7890-4
- *Deep Survival*, Laurence Gonzales ([http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harrison/muse/DeepSurvival\\_landscape.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harrison/muse/DeepSurvival_landscape.pdf))
- **MUSE: *A Spartan Scholar from the Start*** online: <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/students/scholarguide/>
- College-level dictionary
- Lined binder paper 8.5x11 for in-class writing, composition book for note taking
- Blue or black pens for in-class writing
- Internet access and email

### Recommended texts

- Cliffs Notes: Writing: Grammar, Usage, and Style (CliffsQuickReview) ISBN: 0764563939  
This book is only \$10 and contains great information. If you have a grammar text from English 1A/B, you can use that.
- *Deep Survival*, Laurence Gonzales

### Welcome to MUSE!

In this class we will read and analyze novels, personal essays, memoirs, and short stories that define, criticize, or focus on aviation (and the related explorers) as subject. You will investigate your relationship to aviation and its history, and you will create a personal aesthetic with respect to literature. You will keep a formal (typed) journal of reader responses to all assigned readings.

As part of this course, you will be required to:

- attend at least one literary event on campus (see [www.litart.org](http://www.litart.org) for schedule) and write a two-page review of the event (500 words)
- participate in a minimum of THREE MUSE workshops (see [www.sjsu.edu/muse/workshops](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/workshops) for schedule) and write a one-page summary for each (250-300 words each)

University-level study is different from what you experienced in high school. The Metropolitan University Scholar's Experience (MUSE) is designed to help make your transition into college a success by helping you develop the skills and attitude needed for the intellectual engagement and challenge of in-depth university-level study. Discovery, research, critical thinking, written work, attention to the rich cultural diversity of the campus, and active discussion will be key parts of this MUSE course. Enrollment in MUSE courses is limited to a small number of students because these courses are intended to be highly interactive and allow you to easily interact with your professor and fellow students. MUSE courses explore topics and issues from an interdisciplinary focus to show how interesting and important ideas can be viewed from different perspectives.

## Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

This course qualifies as an Area C2 (Letters) course in your General Education requirements. Courses in Arts and Letters should give students knowledge and understanding of significant works of the human intellect and imagination. Students will examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes in the production and perception of such works, and the significance of the historical and cultural contexts in which the works are created and interpreted. Courses should enable students to participate in social and cultural communities associated with artistic and literary endeavors, enriching their personal and professional lives.

## Learning Objectives and Activities for this Course

This course qualifies as an Area C2 (Humanities & Arts) course in your General Education requirements. It is designed with the following learning outcomes:

- To recognize aesthetic qualities and processes that characterize works of the human intellect and imagination. We'll do this by reading and analyzing stories and book-length memoirs. [GE]
- To respond to works of art both analytically (in writing) and affectively (in writing or through other forms of personal and artistic expression). We'll accomplish this by keeping a writing journal (TYPED, 1000 words for each of the three books we read) and by creating our own creative work (a story or poem). [GE]
- To write clearly and effectively, assessed through in-class writing responses, reading quizzes, and homework assignments. [GE]
- To understand the learning process and your responsibility and role in it. You'll start this journey by reading the "Spartan Scholar" handbook and then you'll continue this by participation in three MUSE workshops. [MUSE]
- To know what it means to be a member of a metropolitan university community. We'll play around with various campus projects, like a scavenger hunt. [MUSE]

The following content and activities will be incorporated into the course as you engage in the subject matter of the course:

- Diversity: Issues of diversity shall be incorporated in an appropriate manner. [GE and MUSE]
- Writing: The minimum writing requirement is 1500 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline. [GE]
- Provide students an opportunity to:
  1. experience significant works of art in the classroom and in performances and exhibitions;
  2. understand the historical or cultural contexts in which specific works of art were created; and
  3. recognize the accomplishments of and issues related to women and diverse cultures reflected in such works of art. [GE]
- University scholar: Course activities should be designed to enable students to improve critical thinking skills, information competencies, critical writing and reading skills, and group interactions. [MUSE]
- University life: Students should attend workshops and participate in group activities to help them learn about university resources and activities and to improve in areas they have identified. [MUSE]

## Assignments and participation

This class uses a fun approach to learning. The class works best with students who are **prepared to participate** in each class discussion and activity. As such, most discussions and activities will center on the assigned readings (both fiction and non-fiction). **Bring your book to class every session and be prepared to respond to the text.**

## Late assignments

You are adults and responsible for attending class and turning in assignments on time. If you must miss class, contact a **classmate** about what we covered. Do not email me asking me what we discussed or if you missed "anything important". (You did.) Instead, contact a classmate for that material.

It's OK to email me if you need clarification on an assignment or need to arrange an appointment to meet in person. Please use standard English (including capitals and punctuation) in all emails to me. Please do not use text messaging or chat abbreviations (like cul8r, ur, i'm, etc).

You cannot make up in-class projects, discussions, quizzes, or other work. If you turn in an assignment late (such as the journals), you will lose one full grade for each day the assignment is late. That is, an A becomes a B after one day, and then a C after two days. Each day is a calendar day, not a class period!

**I will not take any assignments more than one week late.**

### **Quizzes, class assignments, and homework**

Throughout the semester, I will give quizzes on the assigned reading and assignments. These quizzes will not be announced in advance and cannot be made up. I will assign various responses to reading and other short writing assignments both in and out of class.

### **Classroom etiquette**

Cell phones must be silent (or on vibrate). Do not use cell phones in the class. No text messaging allowed. Laptops cannot be used during class time except when giving presentations (and then it is optional).

### **The Final**

The **mandatory** final exam will be on

**FINAL EXAM** Tuesday, December 15, 12:15-14:30

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism means passing someone else's work off as your own, such as:

- using text from a book and not citing it as such
- using web page text directly in your papers without citing
- having someone else write all or part of your paper.

Any assignment containing plagiarized passages will receive a 0 grade automatically. We will discuss strategies on avoiding plagiarism, in class.

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Plagiarism or cheating on any portion of any assignment, including copying more than seven consecutive words from a web site, will result in a failing grade for assignment and possibly the course. All student work is subject to review at <http://www.turnitin.com> to identify possible sources of plagiarism. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will be reported to the proper authorities and may result in a grade of F.

### **Turnitin.com:**

**Class ID: 2805782 password: sjsu**

### **Grading**

Three reader response "journals" (TYPED) (1000 words each, 100 points each)	30%
Projects, presentations, participation in class discussions	20%
3 MUSE workshop write-ups (5% each, one page, 250-300 words)	15%
Participation at literary event and two page write up, 500 words	10%
Quizzes (unannounced) and daily class participation	20%
Final Exam	5%

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. Information on add/drop deadlines is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/>. Information about late drops is available at: <http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/> .

### **Academic integrity**

Students should know that the University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at: [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial\\_affairs/Academic\\_Integrity\\_Policy\\_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial\\_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html). Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a

failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make 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 requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

### **Vision 2010**

San José State University will be a prominent student-centered campus. By creating a vibrant educational institution focused on academic rigor, social responsibility and mutual respect, San José State University will be a university of choice – a desirable place for study and work. The University will be known for the value it places on the integration of liberal and professional education and theoretical and applied knowledge. The University will also be known for providing a welcoming, inclusive environment and exemplary student support services from application to graduation. Through the high quality of its graduates and the scholarship, research and service of its faculty and staff, San Jose State University will be viewed as a crucial resource for Silicon Valley and an important contributor to the region, the state and the world.

### **Learning Assistance Resource Center**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff>.

### **Peer Mentor Center**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor web site is located at: <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/> .

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html> . Information about late drop is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/> . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

### **Helpful Websites**

<http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/workshops/> (attend 3 workshops)

<http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>

<http://www.sjlibrary.org>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

<http://essayinfo.com/>

<http://www.wonderfulwritingskillsunhandbook.com>

<http://www.turnitin.com>

## Academic Standards for Assessment

The “A” paper will be well organized and well developed, demonstrating a clear understanding and fulfillment of the assignment. It will show the student’s ability to use language effectively and to construct sentences distinguished by syntactic complexity and variety. Such essays will be essentially free of grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors.

The “B” paper will demonstrate competence in the same categories as the “A” essay. The chief difference is that the “B” essay will show some slight weakness in one of those categories. It may slight one of the assigned tasks, show less facility of expression, or contain some minor grammatical, mechanical, or usage flaws.

The “C” paper will complete all tasks set by the assignment, but show weaknesses in fundamentals, usually development, with barely enough specific information to illustrate the experience or support generalizations. The sentence construction may be less mature, and the use of language less effective and correct than the “B” essay.

The “D” paper will neglect one of the assigned tasks and be noticeably superficial in its treatment of the assignment—that is, too simplistic or too short. The essay may reveal some problems in development, with insufficient specific information to illustrate the experience or support generalizations. It will contain grammatical, mechanical, and/or usage errors that are serious and/or frequent enough to interfere substantially with the writer’s ability to communicate.

The “F” paper will demonstrate a striking underdevelopment of ideas and insufficient or unfocused organization. It will contain serious grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors that render some sentences incomprehensible.

## Course Schedule

**\*\*\*reading must be done before the day we discuss it!\*\*\***

- Week 1**  
T 08.25.09 Class Introduction and Syllabus Review  
Adler “How to Mark a Book” handout  
10 Things...to Improve your Grades:  
<http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/students/resources/bettergrades/>  
Buy course text books
- R 8.27.09 Syllabus quiz  
*Deep Survival*, prologue pg 9-15  
Read: <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/students/scholarguide/> (“Welcome” to “Reading Course Material”)  
Set up Turnitin.com account
- Week 2**  
T 9.01.09 *Deep Survival* Ch 1 + 15 (excerpts)
- Wednesday 9/2 **SUPER Fall Student Organization Faire**  
**Time:** 10:00am - 2:00pm  
**Location:** 7th Street Plaza  
**Hosted By:** Student Involvement  
**Description:** Meet the student organizations that make up SJSU.  
[http://www.sjsu.edu/getinvolved/soal/student\\_orgs/org\\_faire/](http://www.sjsu.edu/getinvolved/soal/student_orgs/org_faire/)
- R 9.03.09 Furlough day for Kelly, MUSE content by Luca  
Read: <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/students/scholarguide/> (“Taking Effective Notes” to “Being Information Literate”)

**Week 3**

T 9.8.09

*Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, part 1**Due: Student Club Faire write up**

R 9.10.09

*Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, part 2**Week 4**

T 9.15.09

*Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, part 3

R 9.17.09

**JLS JOURNAL DUE (100 points, 1000 words)**

Personality tests exercise, Seven Intelligences

*Airman's Odyssey*, Introduction**Week 5**

T 9.22.09

FURLOUGH day for all faculty. NO CLASSES

R 9.24.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 1**Week 6**

T 9.29.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 2Finish reading: <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/students/scholarguide/>**1st MUSE WORKSHOP WRITE UP DUE (50 points, 1 page)**

R 10.1.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 3**Week 7**

T 10.6.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 4

R 10.8.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 5-6**Week 8**

T 10.13.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 7, part 1-3 (pg 74-90)

R 10.15.09

MUSE LIBRARY DAY meet in MLK Room 217 (Kelly's personal furlough day)

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 7, part 4-5**Week 9**

T 10.20.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 8, pg 109-133

R 10.22.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 8, pg 133-159**Week 10**

T 10.27.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 9, parts 1-3 (pg 157-179)**2nd MUSE WORKSHOP WRITE UP DUE (50 points, 1 page)**

R 10.29.09

*Wind, Sand, and Stars* Ch 9, parts 4-5, and Ch10

Boo! Enjoy HALLOWEEN!

**Week 11**

T 11.3.09

**Wind, Sand and Stars JOURNAL DUE (100 points, 1000 words)***West with the Night* Ch 1-2

R 11.8.09

*West with the Night* Ch 3-4

**Week 12**T 11.10.09 *West with the Night* Ch 5-7R 11.12.09 *West with the Night* Ch 8-10**Week 13**T 11.17.09 *West with the Night* Ch 11-14  
**CLA WRITE UP DUE (50 points, 2 pages)**R 11.19.09 *West with the Night* Ch 15-17**Week 14**

T 11.24.09 Personal furlough day, no class

R 11.26.09 THANKSGIVING: Think of the turkey &amp; get ahead in your reading

**Week 15**T 12.1.09 *West with the Night* Ch 18-20  
**3<sup>rd</sup> MUSE WORKSHOP WRITE UP DUE (50 points, 1 page)**R 12.3.09 *West with the Night* Ch 21-24**Week 16**T 12.8.09 **LAST DAY**  
**West with the Night Journal Due (100 points, 1000 words)****T 12.15.09** Tuesday, December 15, 12:15-14:30 **FINAL EXAM****Important SJSU dates Fall 2009**

Thursday, September 3	Last Day to Drop Courses w/o Entry on Record
Monday, September 7	Labor Day - Campus Closed (L)
Friday, September 11	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late (A)
Monday, September 21	Enrollment Census Date (CD)
Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day -Campus Closed (V)
Wednesday, November 25	Classes that start at 5:00 PM or later will not meet.
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day - Campus Closed (I)
Tuesday, December 8	Last Day of Instruction – Last Day of Classes
Wednesday, December 9	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams) (SC)
Thurs – Wed, December 10-16	Final Examinations (exams)
Thursday, December 17	Final Examinations Make-Up Day (MU)
Friday, December 18	Grade Evaluation Day (E)
Monday, December 21	Grades Due From Faculty – End of Fall Semester (G)
December 22- January 24	WINTER RECESS