

English 1B—Composition, Spring 2007

Instructor: Kelly Harrison

Office: FO222 924-4496

Section: 18 MW 10:30-11:45 HGH 122

Office hours: MW 1:30-2:30, by appointment

29 MW 12:00-1:15 SH 239

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Course website: sjsu.webct.com/public/engl001bsp07kh
www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harrison

Welcome to English 1B

This is the second course in a two-semester, lower-division composition sequence. It fulfills the written communication requirement of the university’s core GE and is intended to increase your ability to write, read, and think critically.

This course focuses on the rhetoric of argument and persuasion, and the course requires proficiency in basic research skills and in writing papers informed by research.

This class will combine in-class sessions with an online portion done via WebCT.

Texts and materials

- Ramage, Bean, Johnson: *Writing Arguments: A rhetoric with readings* ISBN 0-321-36466-X
- Woods, Geraldine: *English Grammar Workbook for Dummies* ISBN 0-7645-9932-1 (\$16.99)
- Recommended: *The Little Penguin Handbook* ISBN 0-321-24401-X
- College-level dictionary
- 3 blue books and 2 yellow books for in-class and final essays
- Lined binder paper (8.5”x11”—smaller papers get lost) for in-class writing.
- Blue or black pens for in-class writing and green, purple, or red pens for editing
- Internet access (for online work) and email

Assignments

Reading and writing form the backbone of this class. Most of your work will be text analysis and essay writing. In addition, all discussions and activities will center on the assigned readings, which are designed to give you examples of good argumentation and persuasion. Bring *Writing Arguments* to class every session.

NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS

You are adults and responsible for attending class and turning in assignments on time. In business, you can be fired for not meeting deadlines. If you must miss class, contact a classmate about what we covered and use the WebCT discussion boards. Do not email me asking me what we did or if you missed “anything important”. (You did.) Instead, contact a classmate for that material and take responsibility for your actions and choices.

It’s OK to email me if you need clarification on an assignment or to arrange an appointment to meet in person.

Essays

There are 6 required papers—three in-class essays, two out-of-class essays, and one research paper—and **you must complete all 6 essays in order to pass the course. This means that if you miss an in-class essay, you flunk the class!** Expect to produce a minimum of 8,000 words during the semester. (This is a university and department requirement.) Because this is a writing course; expect to write every week.

- **Out-of-class essays:** These must be 4-5 pages long (1200-1500 words), typed and double-spaced with a readable serif font (Times, Garamond, Palatino, 11-12 point), and spell and grammar checked.
- **In-class essays:** These must be done in a blue book, available for purchase in the Spartan Bookstore or Robert’s Books. Bring your dictionary and a blue or black pen. Don’t miss class on these days. **In-class essays cannot be made up unless you get *prior* permission from me, and I will give make ups only in cases of emergency.**

Quizzes, class assignments, and homework

Throughout the semester, I will give pop-quizzes on the assigned reading and grammar 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. Some responses will be done online in the WebCT classroom.

Workshops

Workshops consist of commenting on and editing your classmates' papers. You are expected to comment thoughtfully and accept criticism with aplomb. (Use your dictionary—look it up.)

Your rough draft must also be included with your final draft of the essay.

The Final

The **mandatory** final exam will be administered to all 1B students on

Saturday, May 12 at 10:00 - noon. Place TBD.

The format is similar to an in-class essay except you will have 30 minutes for prewriting and 60 minutes for writing. The university requires that you use a yellow book for this exam. Bring your paper dictionary (no electronic dictionaries allowed) and blue or black pens.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism means passing off someone else's work 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.

You can also plagiarize yourself by using work done in a previous course. University policy does not allow you to use work. Any assignment containing plagiarized passages will receive a 0 grade automatically.

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.** Turnitin.com

You will upload your three out-of-class essays to <http://www.turnitin.com>. You will receive points for uploading your paper. I won't grade your paper until after you have turned in both a hard copy (due in class) and a soft copy to [turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com).

Class ID: 1793634 password: sjsu

SJSU Writing Center

Clark Hall, Suite 126

Monday-Thursday 9-7 and Friday 9-1

Call for appointments at 924-2308

www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter

Helpful Websites

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

<http://www.sjlibrary.org>

<http://essayinfo.com/>

<http://www.wonderfulwritingskillsunhandbook.com>

<http://www.turnitin.com>

Grading Policy

In English Department Courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and logical organization.

The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog (“The Grading System”). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A = excellent; B = above average; C = average; D = below average; F = failure.

Note: English 1B is an A/B/C/No Credit course, but individual essays will be graded on the A-F scale. Any student with a **final grade below a C will not receive credit for the course.** The C- grade does not exist in 1B.

Grading:	Out-of-Class Essays (2 essays @10% each)	20%
	In-Class Essays (3 essays @ 5% each)	15%
	Research paper & its components	25%
	Final Exam	20%
	Quizzes, workshops, participation	20%

NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS! I'm serious about this!

Research paper components:

Topic question & status	10+15
Outline & thesis	25
Annotated bibliography	25
Draft & workshop	50+25
<u>Final report</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	250

Academic Standards for Assessment

The “A” essay 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” essay 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” essay 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” essay 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” essay 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.

Extra Credit

Opportunities for extra credit will be announced in class at various times.

Disabled Student Services

Students who require assistance due to a disability should contact the Disability Resource Center (Admin 110) at 408-924-6000 or 408-924-5990 TTY as soon as possible. You should also contact me and let me know what special accommodations may be necessary in the classroom.

Course Schedule

Week 1

W 1.24.07

Class Introduction and Syllabus Review
Moore “Shitty first drafts” handout
“Clutter” handout
Adler “How to Mark a Book” handout

Week 2

M 1.29.07

In-class essay #1

Homework:

- WA: Chapter 1, pg 3-14 + conclusion pg 21

W 1.31.07

Syllabus quiz
Discuss essay #1, reading assignments, Chapter 1, taking notes

Homework:

- WA: Ch 2 (omit “For Class Discussion” sections)
- Do the Infopower and plagiarism tutorials online:
<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/>

Week 3

M 2.5.07

Readings
“Too Narrow a Focus” pg 705
“Why Media Ownership Matters” pg 698

Homework:

- WA: Appendix 1: Informal fallacies (pg 426)
- WA: Ch 3 up to pg 67

W 2.7.07

Classic argument structure
Structure for in-class essays

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 1-2
- “Not a Pretty Picture” pg 683

Week 4

M 2.12.07

In-class essay #2

Homework:

- “Death by a thousand blogs” pg 725

W 2.14.07

Discuss essay, readings
Out-of-class essay #1 assigned: classic structure

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 12-13
- WA: Ch 4
- “You wanna take this online?” pg 727
- “Hate speech conviction outlaws email” pg 730

Week 5

M 2.19.07

Blogging and free speech
“The Constitution Does Not Protect Spamming” pg 733

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 3-4
- WA: Ch5

W 2.21.07

ETS testing. Meet in MLK library room 213

Homework:

- Declaration of Independence (on WebCT)
- US Constitution & Bill of Rights (on WebCT)

Week 6

M 2.26.07

Discuss US government documents (Dec of Ind., Constitution, Bill of Rights)

Homework:

- Revise essay
- WA: Ch 7-8

W 2.28.07

Workshop essay #1

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 10-11
- Finish essay

Week 7

M 3.5.07

Due: Out-of-class essay #1 (1500 words)

Choosing a research topic

Homework:

- NY Times article (money spent on Iraq, handout)
- “To See or Not to See” pg 498

W 3.7.07

Discuss readings

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 5-6
- WA: Ch 10
- Choose topic for research paper

Week 8

M 3.12.07

Due: Research question (10 points)

Library Day. Meet in MLK library room 115, across from the used bookstore and guard station

Homework:

- Research: find source documents

W 3.14.07

Out-of-class essay #2 assigned: Rogerian structure

Review of research process, next steps

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 7-9
- "Racial Profiling: A Matter of Survival" pg 493
- "Military Service" pg 475

Week 9

M 3.19.07

Discuss draft, services

Due: Revised research Q and status on sources (15 points)

- "Uncle Sam and Aunt Samantha" pg 470
- "The Return of the Draft" pg 472

Homework:

Finish reading

W 3.21.07

Workshop essay #2

Homework:

- Ch 16 (read), ch 17 (skim)
- "Weapons in the Heavens" pg 522
- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 14, 16, 17

Monday-Friday**March 26-30 Spring Recess, Campus Closed****Week 10**

M 4.2.07

Due: Out-of-class essay #2 (1500 words)

Homework:

- "Wal-Mart Nation: The Race to the Bottom" pg 561
- "Don't Blame Wal-Mart" pg 563

W 4.4.07

Discussion

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 15
- "The Price is Right" pg 571
- "The Wal-Martization of America" pg 572

Week 11

M 4.9.07

Research outline and revised thesis due (25 points)

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 18
- “Down and Out in Discount America” pg 565

W 4.11.07

The Wal-Mart Movie

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 18
- “Why Wal-Mart is Good” pg 573

Week 12

M 4.16.07

WM Movie continued

Homework:

- Finish annotated bibliography

W 4.18.07

Research paper: annotated bibliography due (50 points)

Homework:

- Finish draft of research paper
- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 19

Week 13

M 4.23.07

Workshop *completed* draft of research paper (2000 words minimum, 50 points)
(bring 3 copies of your draft with you)

W 4.25.07

Discussion on papers

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 20

Week 14

M 4.30.07

Papers and presentations

Homework:

- Grammar Workbook: Chapters 21-22

W 5.2.07

In-class essay #3 Final Prep

Week 15

M 5.7.07

Research paper due (2500 words, 100 points)

Paper presentations (both days)

W 5.9.07

LAST DAY

Preparation for final exam

Saturday

May 12

FINAL EXAM 10:00 – 12:00 noon, place TBD_____

Letter to Kelly due

Important SJSU dates

Monday, September 4	Labor Day - Campus Closed
Monday, February 5	Last day to drop courses without an Entry on your permanent record
Monday, February 12	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late
Monday-Friday, March 26-30	Spring Recess, Campus Closed
Tuesday, May 15	Last Day of Instruction
Wednesday, May 16	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams)
Thursday-Wednesday, May 17-23	Final Examinations

This has been making the rounds on the Internet...

If you've learned to speak fluent English, you must be a genius! This little treatise on the lovely language we share is only for the brave.

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead the group if he would just get the lead out.
- 6) In the desert of Iraq, the soldier decided to desert his post.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A lake with a jumping bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object in the window.
- 11) The invalid vet was told his insurance was invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row the boat.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) After a number of injections my jaw got number.
- 19) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 20) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France (Surprise!). Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. Quicksand works slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea or is it a pig. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.