INSTRUCTOR: J. Hilliard
OFFICE: Duncan Hall – Room 209
HOURS: 12:00 – 1:20 and by appointment
PHONE: 924-5286 EMAIL: hilliard.judith@yahoo.com

COURSE SYLLABUS

DESCRIPTION:

This course emphasizes the knowledge and application of the convention of written English for academic purposes. The class focuses on writing structure, as well as the invention and creative process, the mechanical process, and the rules of composition. It also will help improve and refine a student’s grammar, composition, and critical-thinking skills which are required for upper-division work at SJSU. In addition, the class satisfies the upper-division writing requirement. Prerequisites: English 1A and 1B, junior standing, and a passing score on the Writing Skills Test (WST).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the completion of this course, you should realize the importance of communication in your major, be able to apply appropriate strategies to fit particular situations, and communicate effective messages:

1. Through readings of essays, journal articles, short stories and poetry by selected mathematicians and other writers, students will study writing styles and techniques of professional writers.
2. Through writing practice, students will demonstrate their understanding and mastery of various rhetorical techniques, such as narration, description, definition, argumentation, comparison/contrast, and more.
3. Students will write on various topics, some general and others specific to their individual majors.
4. Students will utilize the library and demonstrate research and documentation skills.
5. Students will do in-class exercises to eliminate errors in their papers regarding mechanics of English or grammar.
6. Students will do practice editing and will proofread and edit their own work.
7. Students will do practice exercises, revise paragraphs and be encouraged to revise their own work.
8. Students will write a 10-12 page research paper and then present a 10-15 minute oral report on their chosen topic.
9. Each student will write two journal entries a week. Each entry must be a full page, typed, double-spaced, and deal with a reading or other class assignments and the other on any topic of your choice.
10. Students must write a resume and application letter.
11. Students will prepare a personal statement for graduate school and/or the credential program.

TEXT:


COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students' Commitments and Responsibilities:

1. Regular attendance and active-participation in-class activities.
2. Complete all assignments to the best of your abilities and take pride in what you do.
3. In-class Writings: Must be legible and submitted in INK! Use 8-1/2 x 11 paper. Skip every other line and write on one side only. Hand in at end of class.
4. Out-of-class Writings: Must be typed or word-processed and double-spaced and be three-to-five pages in length. Papers are due at the beginning of class.
5. Late papers: Your cooperation in completing assignments by the due dates is appreciated. If you must submit a paper late, it will be due one week from the original date, and it will be reduced one grade level.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES:

If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building has to be evacuated, please see me as soon as possible.

ASSIGNMENTS:

An "Assignment-Schedule" is included with your course syllabus.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

1. A thesaurus and dictionary
2. 8-1/2 x 11 lined paper (white or yellow), pens of blue or black ink

GRADING:

Grades will be A+ through C and anything lower will be a No Credit (NC). This NC will not count against your GPA. You will have to retake the class for a grade.

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Each student will be required to do research, since this is an integral part of upper-division work. Not only will you receive a handout on how to do a research paper, but we will attend a workshop at the King Library to aid you in this project. Your paper must be ten to 12 pages in length and should deal with some mathematician and/or aspect of mathematics or science. If your major is some field other than mathematics, you are encouraged to present a paper on your field. Speak with me prior to the time to discuss the topic. Each student also will give a ten-15 minute oral presentation about the research project. This will be preceded by a lecture given by a speech-communications expert.

EVALUATION:

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