

**San José State University**  
**School of Liberal Arts, Department of English and Comparative Literature**  
**ENGL 1B, Section 13 (22137), Argument and Analysis, Spring 2021**

**Basic Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Dr. Michael Tod Edgerton /ej-er-tun/
Preferred pronouns:	He/him/his
Office Location:	Same Zoom link as class (see below)
Email:	<a href="mailto:Michael.Edgerton@sjsu.edu">Michael.Edgerton@sjsu.edu</a> (email is my preferred mode of communication)
Office Hours:	Almost any time by appointment, really (I barely leave the house these days...). I suggest Tuesdays and Thursdays between 1:00 and 3:00pm, but I can meet you at other times. <a href="#">Email me</a> with a couple of suggested times and I'll get right back to you. I can often meet within a couple of hours.
Class Days/Time:	Mondays and Wednesdays 12-1:15pm
<b>Zoom Link:</b>	<a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/89755353992?pwd=WjFhSW1icmxJN2JvN3JERkVMdW9RUT09">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/89755353992?pwd=WjFhSW1icmxJN2JvN3JERkVMdW9RUT09</a> (Links to an external site.) (Passcode: <b>629618</b> ) * This info is also on the Home and Announcement pages of our <a href="#">Canvas</a> course management system ( <a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1415488">https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1415488</a> ).
Prerequisites:	Completion of ENGL 1A/1A-FS with a grade of at least a C- or higher.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE Area C2 Letters
M.L. King Library Contact:	Peggy Cabrera. Email: <a href="mailto:peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu">peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu</a> . (She can help you with any research questions you may have along the way. You can also just use the chat function on the libraries website when available.)

**Course Format**

This is a “flipped” course, run mostly as a discussion seminar and writing workshop. This puts you in the driver’s seat as the primary agent of your own education (as is always truly the case, if differently, even in a traditional lecture course). You are responsible for coming to each and every class fully equipped with your reading and writing device, having fully prepared for class (see more below). **You must be fully present and not on any other course or other websites, social media apps, or otherwise distracted.**

**ZOOM:**

Since “coming to class” currently means logging on to Zoom, **you are required to**

- **turn your camera on and log in on time for every synchronous, live Zoom class meeting.**
- **You must stay in front of your computer, on camera, paying full attention and actively participating. Just because we’re on Zoom, does not mean you can just come and go as you**

**please. You should have every bit as much respect for the Zoom “classroom” as the physical one. Use the bathroom before or after class, etc.**

Our class link and password for the whole semester is:

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/89755353992?pwd=WjFhSW1icmxJN2JvN3JERkVMdW9RUT09> (Links to an external site.) (Passcode: 629618)

### **Recording Zoom Classes**

This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) will be recorded for instructional or educational purposes. If, however, you would prefer to remain anonymous during these recordings, then please speak with the instructor about possible accommodations (e.g., temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom session, including student name and picture, prior to recording).

### **Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission.**

Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. This university policy (S12-7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

### **Class Preparation**

As I write above, you are responsible for coming to every class fully prepared to participate in all activities. **Active participation and extensive preparation are both key to your success in this course.** This will entail:

- 1) Carefully reading and following all assignment instructions on Canvas. If you have questions, re-read the instructions. If you are still unclear, ask me in class or email me at [Michael.Edgerton@sjsu.edu](mailto:Michael.Edgerton@sjsu.edu).
- 2) Reading and preparing to discuss all assigned materials for a specific course meeting.  
**To fully prepare a reading for class, you must:**
  - A) Read *carefully and attentively* 100% of the assigned material.
  - B) Highlight or underline key passages, such as definitions of terms, main arguments, important points, and supporting evidence. It is especially helpful to note points in the text about which you are confused or have a question, bringing these passages up in class for us to think about together.
  - C) Write a short summary or captioning sentence(s) for the reading, including stating its main purpose or purposes (to persuade, to inform, to entertain and/or move the reader, to offer her/him/them insights into the writer’s experience or culture, etc.).
  - D) In your own words, list its main points and the evidence used to support it (this could include historical claims, statistics and other data, details that illustrate a narrative essay’s points (e.g., about the author’s relationship to her father, his experiences of transphobia, their understanding of romantic love and “successful” relationships, etc.).

## Course Materials and Communications

As noted above, course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on our Canvas Learning Management System course website, which you can access directly at <http://sjsu.instructure.com> and through your One.SJSU.edu page (<https://one.sjsu.edu>). In this class, we will be using Purdue University's [Online Writing Lab](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/index.html) ("OWL," for short) at [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\\_writing/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/index.html) as our grammar and mechanics textbook (or "style manual," as it is formally called), as well as to reference the MLA Guide for in-text citation and Works Cited page formatting. Grammar and mechanics quizzes will be given on assigned OWL readings. You will use the "General Writing" section ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\\_writing/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/index.html)) for grammar and mechanics and the "[MLA Guide](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html)" section for citations formatting. With citations, I recommend starting with the "[MLA In-Text Citations: The Basics](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html)" ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_in\\_text\\_citations\\_the\\_basics.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html)) and "[MLA Works Cited Page: Basic Format](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_works_cited_page_basic_format.html)" ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_works\\_cited\\_page\\_basic\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_works_cited_page_basic_format.html)) pages. More in-depth information and further examples can be found on the other pages of The MLA Guide section of OWL.

**You are responsible for checking with the messaging system in Canvas and your SJSU email account on a daily basis** for communications from your professors and the university. Always email your professors and other university staff from your SJSU account and not from your personal email. **Please—always, always keep an open line of communication with me about your circumstances. I realize that this "Zoom" semester is not ideal. I realize that you may be dealing with all kinds of challenges and anxieties related to economic hardships, physical and psychological health issues, caregiving and other responsibilities. I want to be as flexible as I can, within reason, and without being taken advantage of. I certainly understand that any number of extenuating circumstances can impede your ability to complete your work and participate in class. Talk to me; don't just give up, fall behind, or even drop the class. We'll see what we can work out.**

## Course Description

- ENGL 1B is a writing course that exposes you to significant works of the human intellect and imagination. Through the study of literary, rhetorical, and professional texts, you will examine the analytical and creative process 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.
- ENGL 1B is open to (1) students majoring in Biochemistry, Marine Biology, Geology and Engineering (Aerospace, Biomedical, Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, General, Industrial and Systems, Materials, Mechanical, Software); and (2) transfer students who have completed GE Area A3 (Critical Thinking) requirement and still need to take a second semester of English composition for GE Area C2. Please [consult your advisor to confirm your degree requirements](#).
- ENGL 1B is not open to students who successfully completed ENGL 2. Based on AP, CLEP, and IB scores, students may be exempt from taking ENGL 1B. Please consult the [Credit by Exam chart](#) to see if you are eligible for exemption.
- Prerequisite: ENGL 1A or 1A-F/S (with a grade of C- or better)
- Satisfies GE Area C2: Letters
- Read more about [ENGL 1B course description and enrollment requirements](#)

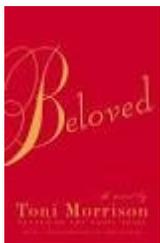
- To determine if ENGL 1B is the right choice, view "[What to Take After English 1A](#)," the [major exceptions for GE requirements chart](#), and the [Credit by Exam chart](#).

### Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to

1. read actively and rhetorically;
2. perform the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing) and demonstrate an awareness of said performance;
3. articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as *purpose*, *audience*, *context*, and *rhetorical appeals*;
4. integrate your ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in different genres; and
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing.

### Required Texts and Equipment



#### **Textbooks**

Toni Morrison, *Beloved: A Novel*. Vintage (Reprint edition, 2004).

ISBN-10 : 1400033411

ISBN-13 : 978-1400033416

\* A hardcopy (print rather than electronic/kindle) version of this 2004 edition is preferable, as we'll be referencing page numbers of this edition.

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue\\_owl.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html)

#### **Other Readings**

Various other readings will be linked from and posted to Canvas throughout the semester.

### Technology Requirements (yes, requirements—these are not suggestions)

**Laptop or tablet computer.** Obviously, as we're on Zoom. If yours dies and you need to borrow one, please contact the Instructional Resource Center at <https://www.sjsu.edu/it/services/academic-tech/equipment-loaning/index.php>.

**Microsoft Word**, which you can download free as part of the entire MS Office suite at <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/education/products/office>. **All your writing assignments need to be in ".docx" format, including your critiques of peer writing.** (You can also use Google docs or Open Office, using "save as" to reformat your assignments, but I will only accept submissions of assignments in MS Word (.docx) format, and it is much easier to just keep everything in Word.)

**Adobe Reader.** Download it free from Adobe.com: <https://get.adobe.com/reader>. You can get the whole Adobe Creative Suite for free from SJSU through the "Software Downloads" tile of your One.SJSU.edu page (<https://www.sjsu.edu/it/services/collaboration/software/instructions.php>).

**Drop Box Account.** You can sign up for a free account and download Drop Box online at <https://www.dropbox.com>. This will allow you to save your work for this class both on your hard drive and online. When you're connected to the Internet, Drop Box automatically saves your files to the cloud. You should create an ENGL 131 file on your computer and in the cloud using your free Drop Box account. This way, you can access your work from any computer with internet access or from your own computer, with or without internet. Create a folder in Dropbox for all of your ENGL 131 work so you know where to find it all quickly and easily.

## **Course Requirements and Assignments**

The *University Policy S16-9, Course Syllabi* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>) requires the following language to be included in the syllabus:

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

In this class, you will be writing a personal, narrative essay; working on a group analysis of a visual image and then presenting it; writing your own visual analysis essay; writing an argumentative, persuasive essay on an issue of current social, cultural, and/or political importance; presenting that paper to the class; and writing a reflective essay evaluating your own progress as a reader and writer over the course of the semester. As part of the writing process, you will have many prewriting assignments and write honest, but supportive critiques of your peers' essays. Participation is central to this course, and some of your participation points will come in the form of peer review workshops and class presentations, in addition to weekly participation in discussions (see more on this under “Participation” below).

## **Final Portfolio**

You will submit, in a single Word document (.docx), all your revised and polished major assignments (listed above) as demonstration of your learning and development as a reader and writer in this course. Included in the portfolio will be your work from the Reflection on College Writing summer course, so keep that in a file on your computer—backed up in the cloud (Dropbox, Google Drive through your personal google or SJSU.edu email account, Microsoft OneDrive, etc.)—where you can easily find it, as well as a new essay reflecting on your progress as a writer since summer. You should create a an ENGL 1A file on your computer and in the cloud (I recommend downloading [Drop Box](https://www.dropbox.com) from <https://www.dropbox.com>, which saves it to your hard drive and, when you're connected to the Internet, to the cloud). More specific guidelines will be given on Canvas at the end of the semester.

## **Grading Policies and Procedures of Determination**

### **General Essay Grading Rubric**

While there may be slight variations in how I assess different assignments that are tailored to the specific goals of each, the following rubric outlines the major elements of most types of essays, and I will use this to grade your final major essay assignment drafts, just as you should use it to evaluate those drafts as you develop them through multiple stages and will be using it to evaluate your peers' essays as part of the

composition and revision process. Remember this statement, repeat it as a mantra, as it is the central and guiding principle of your life as a composition student and future writer in any professional context or capacity, from business emails to professional presentations: **Writing is revision. Writing is revision. Writing is revision...**

## Essay Grading Rubric

### Competent: Unified/Coherent/Complete

If your essay meets these first three standards, you are writing *competently* and you will earn a grade of “C.” (70-79)

#### 1. Unity

- **Contains a center of gravity, a unifying and controlling purpose, a thesis or claim, which is maintained throughout the paper.**

Essays can be organized in many different ways. They may have an implicit or explicit thesis—or they may simply have a unifying purpose or theme. In a **unified** paper, every sentence and every word will contribute in some way towards the exposition and development of a single “main” idea. That is, every sentence and every word will relate to the “topic” or the “comment” of the thesis.

- **Organizes writing around a thesis or according to the organizational requirements of the particular assignment (e.g., summary, narrative, argument, analysis, description, etc.)**

Simply put, to “organize writing around a thesis” or other central point means that the essay reveals, under examination, some sort of overall organizational plan or strategy. Could this essay be outlined? Does it have a definite beginning, middle, and end? A clearly organized essay might use logical, spatial, chronological, or even associational order—but the strategy will suit the topic, the audience, and the purpose of the paper.

#### 2. Coherence

- **Uses words and sentences, rhythm and phrasing, variations and transitions, concreteness and specificity to reveal and emphasize the relationship between evidence and thesis.**

To differentiate “Coherence” from “Unity” you should scale back your frame of reference: is some sort of organizational plan apparent *within* each paragraph? Has the writer used syntax and diction to create links *between thoughts/sentences*? Does the writer’s use of repetition, parallelism, figures, and rhythm help to emphasize main points OR does the writer’s choice of diction and syntax distract the reader from main ideas?

#### 3. Complete and Polished

- **Follows length requirements, is finished, revised, and effectively proofread.**

### Effective/Skillful/Persuasive

If you meet all of the competency standards above and, in addition, achieve coherence and exhibit audience awareness, you are writing *skillfully* and you will earn a grade of “B.” (80-89)

#### 4. Evidence/Development

- **Explains how, why, or in what way evidence and/or detail supports point/claim/thesis/topic/ideas.**
- **Incorporates evidence from outside sources smoothly, appropriately, and responsibly.**

Whether the writer adds her own details and examples as evidence or incorporates someone else's evidence with quotes and paraphrases, s/he will consistently incorporate and explain all these kinds of evidence. Few quotes will be left "hanging"; instead, they will be imbedded in the writer's own sentences, usually with some explanatory remarks linking the quote to the topic or thesis. Coherence is the difference between a poem, a list, or an outline and a prose paragraph.

- **Develops appropriate, logical, and relevant supporting detail and/or evidence.**

This criterion asks you to note whether the student used examples and other evidence to support his/her argument or position or idea and whether that evidence is fairly used, accurate, and relevant in supporting his/her points. You are evaluating the *quality* of evidence and sources here.

- Includes more specific, concrete evidence (or details) than opinion or abstract, general commentary.

This criterion asks you to gauge *quantity* of evidence. Has the writer wasted most of the essay making general statements and assertions *about* the topic? Or, instead, has s/he used most of her words and sentences to clarify and define the argument, giving examples and explaining connections to assertions?

## 5. Audience Awareness

- **Demonstrates a sense that the writer knows what s/he's doing and is addressing real people.**
- **Reflects a respect for values that influence ethos (e.g., common ground, trustworthiness, careful research).**

Audience awareness is probably most apparent in a writer's word choice—does the writer show respect and understanding by consistently choosing an appropriate level of formality and technicality? You may also want to examine the writer's choice of supporting examples and evidence—are they appropriate to the audience?

## 6. Presentation and Design

- **Follows standard guidelines for English grammar, punctuation, usage, and documentation.**
- **Follows conventions for formatting that academic readers expect.**

## Distinctive

**If you meet all of the competency standards, achieve coherence and exhibit audience awareness, and, in addition, demonstrate a high level of one or more features of superior writing, you are writing distinctively and will earn a grade of "A." (90-100)**

## 7. Distinction

- **Your writing stands out because of one or more of the following characteristics: complexity, originality, seamless coherence, extraordinary control, ease and sophistication of both language, recognizable voice, compelling purpose, imagination, insight, thoroughness, and/or depth.**

I like to compare the movement from Merely Competent ("C") to Effective ("B") to Distinguished ("A") as the development from crawling to walking to dancing—without self-consciousness and with your own style—"moving" (i.e., writing) freely, fluidly, and in an expressive and compelling manner.

## Ineffective

I do not even want to think about this, so I stick it at the bottom... If your paper does not meet even the basic competency standards, exhibiting major problems in either Unity or Effectiveness, you will earn a grade of “D” (60-69) or “F” (<60), and you should *immediately* schedule a conference with me. Incomplete “final” drafts will not be graded but assessed as a 0% F.

### Grade Categories and Percentages, Word Counts, and General Education Learning Outcomes

Assignment/Category	Grade %	Word Count	GELO
Final Portfolio	20%	Variable	1-3 and 5
Major Essay 1	20%	1,000-1,500	1-5
Major Essay 2	20%	1,000-1,500	1-5
All exercises and assignments, essay drafts, any quizzes, etc.	30%	Variable	NA
Class Presentation	5%	Variable	3 and 5
Participation	5%	NA	NA

### Letter Grade Definitions by Percentage

Grade	Percentage
<i>A plus</i>	97 to 100%
<i>A</i>	93 to 96%
<i>A minus</i>	90 to 92%
<i>B plus</i>	87 to 89 %

Grade	Percentage
<i>B</i>	83 to 86%
<i>B minus</i>	80 to 82%
<i>C plus</i>	77 to 79%
<i>C</i>	73 to 76%

Grade	Percentage
<i>C minus</i>	70 to 72%
<i>D plus</i>	67 to 69%
<i>D</i>	63 to 66%
<i>D minus</i>	60 to 62%

### IMPORTANT POLICY NOTES:

- **This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.**
- **NO late work or make-up assignments will be accepted without good reason**, and no extra credit will be given, as a rule. Exceptions may be made at my discretion, and late work, if accepted, may be penalized.
- **I reserve the right to add or change assignments, including pop quizzes, change the syllabus schedule, etc. at my discretion. I will notify you in class and through email.**
- **DISREGARD the Grades on Canvas. That will only tell you what you have or have not turned in. The percentage grade it gives is not accurate, as Canvas is not able to calculate your grade accurately, given that regular assignments and final essays, peer reviews, etc. are all differently weighted (or I have yet to figure it out, at least, if it can).**

### Participation and Classroom Protocol

As previously noted, participation is key to this course and is required of *all students*. If you’re a shy student, take this course as a challenge and opportunity to build your confidence and public-speaking skills. We all say something “wrong” or that makes us feel “stupid” sometimes—so what? It’s not the end of the world. It’s often, in fact, how we learn, and we are all learning and developing as readers and writers together. We will work collaboratively, helping one another to improve our skills. We will not judge but support one another, even as we debate controversial issues, evaluate one another’s

performances, and critique one another's arguments—all for our mutual betterment. Come fully prepared and ready to engage.

This class is not a lecture but a seminar, and I will be facilitating *your* discussions of readings, student essays and presentations, etc. Your physical and mental presence is therefore expected at *each and every* class meeting. This is *not* the kind of class you can miss and just get the lecture notes from a friend to catch up. *Every class will require your active participation.* **A writing course is a community of learners undergoing a process whereby they develop their reading and writing skills over time, through hard work and dedication.** Writing courses are by their nature time- and energy-intensive courses. Staying on track with homework assignments and being present (both physically and mentally) and actively contributing to class discussions and completing in-class writing or other assignments is *absolutely essential* to your success in this course.

**You are therefore expected to arrive on time, fully-prepared, and ready to participate actively in each class meeting—and to keep your camera on and your attention on class.** To receive credit for contributions to discussions, **you must offer new insights or pose questions that lead to productive conversation, not just repeat what someone else has said.** This also means that you must come to class with all required assignments completed and reading and writing homework materials in hand (be that as a print-out or on your computer).

**DO NOT be afraid to ask questions.** Questions are the basis of all intellectual inquiry and discovery, and are the only way to e.g., think through complex texts and ideas, clarify assignment instructions, double-check grading criteria, etc.—so ask away! I am here to guide and aid you, I am one of your learning resources, so do not be shy about consulting with me on your assignments, etc.

### Discussion Guidelines

- Be RESPECTFUL (almost every other guideline is a subcategory of this all-important one!)
- No yelling, talking over, interrupting, or—obviously—no personal insults.
- Try to understand and be considerate of others' perspectives, opinions, and feelings
- Come prepared so you can actively and substantively contribute to discussion (and not waste your classmates' time B.S.-ing). Read and write your assigned analyses/responses and bring those to class along with the reading so you have all of your materials, notes, and ideas at hand.
- Speaking of wasting others' time, don't just repeat what someone else already said. You can certainly extend it, offer a different perspective on it, etc., but don't just repackage it in different words and hope we don't notice.
- Let others speak. We don't want class to devolve into a situation where the same five people carry the conversation all the time. The popcorn method was a good suggestion for doing this, too (although "hot potato" and "tag" seem like more accurate analogies to me...but whatever). It's where one student starts out with a contribution and then randomly passes the discussion baton on to another person.
- To that end, BE COGNIZANT of yourself and of others. Always be "taking the temperature" of the room, and give others space to speak.
- And to *that* end: Don't Be Afraid of Silence. Sometimes a minute or two of silence gives more tentative people time to step up.
- Offer CONSTRUCTIVE critique. While our goal is to discuss, debate, and rigorously evaluate one another's reading and writing to help one another improve throughout the semester, we want to do this in as *supportive, encouraging, and positive* a manner as we can.

- Conversely, be open to criticism. It's the only way to learn, and becoming defensive can just shut out what others have to have offer you. We're not going to judge one another, but help everyone improve as much as we can.
- Stay on topic. Tangents are usually counterproductive.
- ACTIVELY LISTEN AND PARTICIPATE in discussions, don't zone out, drift off or get up and leave in the middle of class (use the bathroom beforehand). If you're going to be sick, of course, by all means run!
- Be CONFIDENT in your presentations of your analyses, interpretations, evaluations and critiques. It's fine to admit when you know you're going out on a limb, taking a stab in the dark, but if you feel you have a strong case to make for the strength or weakness of an argument or its evidence, for example, don't be afraid to say—and stand by—it. Even if you don't always feel that way, try to hold yourself with confidence—fake it 'til you make it! (Arrogance is something altogether different, and we want to avoid it.) The first step in gaining confidence in your ideas is to always ground them in the language, logic, and evidence of the text itself, in what's actually on the page.

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>. Make sure to review these university policies and resources; it is your responsibility to know them.

Where academic integrity is concerned, I do not abide plagiarism and will call for the harshest punishment possible, which could range from failing the assignment, the entire course, or even being expelled from the university. Plagiarism is not only copying verbatim an entire paper, but even a sentence, even paraphrasing without citing the source of the information or idea. For the full definition and more information, see SJSU's [Academic Integrity Violations](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/schedules/integrity.html) page at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/schedules/integrity.html>.

## **Course Overview, ENGL 1B Argument and Analysis Spring 2021**

ENGL 1B is designed to take an interdisciplinary approach to questions, problems, and topics of intellectual interest and substance. For the first half or so of the semester, we will be looking at the history of antiblack racism, white supremacy, and the persistence of the effects of the institution of slavery upon which the United States was in part founded. We will look at how scientists, historians, cultural critics, and literary and visual artists all approach understanding and combatting the problem of antiblack racism and white supremacy in America. I will provide a lot of initial readings, and you will have the opportunity to do further research on your own, writing several shorter essays and then a longer, major essay exhibiting your own interdisciplinary understanding if the problematics of race in America.

After this initial inquiry, I will turn the reins over to you for your second major essay. You will propose possible topics, problems, or questions you would like to research, developing and presenting to the class your own interdisciplinary analysis of the topic.

All specifics will be on Canvas. You should always go to the [Modules](https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1415488/modules) page of our Canvas site (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1415488/modules>) to see posted assignment topics, instructions, and deadlines.

### **Broad Outline**

Module 1 | The Invention of Race: The Power of an Illusion

Module 2 | Slavery and Black Non-Being: The Case of the Zong

Module 3 | Slavery and Black Non-Being: The Case of Margaret Garner

Module 4 | In the Wake: Jim Crow New and Old

Module 5 | In the Wake: Exorcising the Present

Module 6 | [Insert Your Topic Here]

### **Important Dates**

**Wed, Jan 27:** Introduction

**Wed, March 10:** Major Essay 1 Final Draft due for a grade

**Mon – Fri, March 29 – April 2:** SPRING BREAK

**Wed, April 28:** Major Essay 2 Final Draft due for a grade

**Mon, May 10: All student presentation Power Points due on Canvas.**

Class Presentations of Essay 2 begin. Students present their analysis of their chosen topic using Power Points (Free with MS Office) with A/V via screen sharing for 8-9 minutes (strictly timed as part of grading criteria).

**Wed, May 12:** Class Presentations

**Mon, May 17:** Class Presentations (and last day of classes)

**\* FINAL PORTFOLIOS DUE ON CANVAS and PORTFOLIUM by 11:59am**

For important university-wide dates and deadlines, see the SJSU Academic Calendar.