San José State University  
Department of English & Comparative Literature  
English 2: Critical Thinking and Writing, Section 18, Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Sarah Prasad
Office Location: Faculty Offices 212
Telephone: 408.924.4236
Email: sarah.prasad@sjtu.edu (Email is the best way to contact me.)
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm and by appointment. Zoom:
https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/3641950606?pwd=YnpnZmYwNzNjcjNMQUs1a04rM2tVUT09 Password: Prasad
Class Days/Time: All online asynchronous. Periodic meetings will be optional and recorded for later viewing.
Classroom: Online
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1 (Oral Communication) and A2 (Written Communication I) with grades of C- or better
GE/SJSU Studies Category: GE A3 / Critical Thinking and Writing

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses
This course is a fully online course via Canvas; thus, work will be done individually online. A computer and internet connectivity are required for this course. See “Other technology requirements / equipment / material” below for help finding computers on campus.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, and assignment instructions can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal http://one.sjsu.edu to learn of any updates.

ENGL 2 Course Description

General Course Description
ENGL 2 is an introductory writing course that focuses on the relationship between language and logic when composing arguments. Building on the skills acquired in ENGL 1A, you will learn to reason effectively and think rhetorically to invent, demonstrate, and express arguments clearly, logically, and persuasively.

Section-Specific Course Description
English 2 Section 18 is a fully online asynchronous course, which means that all work will be done online independently. Occasional Zoom meetings will be optional and will be recorded for later viewing by those that cannot attend.

English 2 Section 18 will focus on Opportunity. We will look at this idea in different readings and other forms of communication. We will also give you an opportunity to spread your ideas through your own meme, TED Talk, and research paper.
ENGL 2 Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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

1. locate and evaluate sources, through library research, and integrate research through appropriate citation and quotation;
2. present effective arguments that use a full range of legitimate rhetorical and logical strategies to articulate and explain their positions on complex issues in dialogue with other points of view;
3. locate, interpret, evaluate, and synthesize evidence in a comprehensive way in support of one’s ideas;
4. identify and critically evaluate the assumptions in and the context of an argument;
5. distinguish and convey inductive and deductive patterns as appropriate, sequencing arguments and evidence logically to draw valid conclusions and articulate related outcomes (implications and consequences).

ENGL 2 Course Content

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading, writing, and oral assignments to construct your own arguments on complex issues (such as diversity and ethnicity, class and social equity) that generate meaningful public debate. Readings for the course will include writers from different ethnicities, gender, and class.

Writing: You will write a series of essays informed by research and articulating fully developed arguments about complex issues. Assignments emphasize those skills and activities in writing and thinking that produce the persuasive argument and the critical essay, each of which demands analysis, interpretation, and evaluation. Writing assignments give you repeated practice in prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

Logic: You will learn methods of argument analysis, both rhetorical and logical, that will allow you to identify logical structures (such as warrants, evidence, qualification, rebuttal; enthymemes and syllogisms) and distinguish common logical fallacies.

Reading: In addition to being writing intensive, ENGL 2 is also a reading course. You will read a variety of critical and argumentative texts to help develop your skills for understanding the logical structure of argumentative writing.

Multimodal: You will be presenting your arguments orally to class both as an individual and as part of a group.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Other Readings: You will be responsible for printing these articles from Canvas, and reading and annotating them. Other readings may be added; notice of any additions will be sent via Canvas.

“Choice, Happiness, and Spaghetti Sauce” by Malcolm Gladwell
“Is Income Inequality Inevitable” by Stephen J. Dubner
“MIT prof finds that adding an hour of sleep can bump students up a letter grade” by Cathryn J. Prince
“The Writer’s Process” by Hallie Cantor
Other technology requirements / equipment / material

1. Ability to download and open these types of files: pdf, doc, and docx files.
2. Student Computer Labs: If you don’t have a personal computer, the school has computers available to students in the Academic Success Center (http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

ENGL 2 Course Requirements and Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Peer Review</th>
<th>Final</th>
<th>Word Count</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
<th>GELOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benchmark Essay</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1/27</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HW</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliographies</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>300+ each</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of a Meme</td>
<td>3/3</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of Student TED Talk</td>
<td>3/17</td>
<td>3/22</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Source (MS) Essay</td>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>5/5</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of the Website Version of MS Essay</td>
<td>5/12</td>
<td>5/17</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Reflection Portfolio (the Final)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5/24 (Sec 18)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, you are expected to spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Final Examination or Evaluation

Our final will be a portfolio project which will be organized in Cavas Portfolium. Details about the assignment will be posted in Canvas Final Portfolium Module. To turn in your final, you will need to post the link to your Portfolium in two places: in our Canvas course and in the Department’s Canvas assessment course.

Grading Policy

The department’s standard grading scheme consists of the following: Requirements for particular assignments will vary, but in all cases essay grades will reflect the paper’s effectiveness, which is broken down into three major areas: content (this includes maturity and sophistication of thought), organization, and expression.

The following are the criteria by which essays are typically evaluated in first-year writing courses:

An “A” range essay is organized and well-developed, demonstrating a clear understanding and fulfillment of the assignment, written in a unique and compelling voice. It will show the student’s ability to use language effectively with a solid command of grammar, mechanics, and usage.
A “B” range essay demonstrates competence in the same categories as an “A” essay, but it may show slight weakness in one of these areas. It will respond to the topic suitably and may contain some grammatical, mechanical or usage errors.

A “C” range essay will complete the requirements of the assignment, but it will show weaknesses in fundamentals, such as development. It may show weakness in mastery of grammar, mechanics, usage, or voice. A “D” range essay will neglect to meet all the requirements of the assignment or may be superficial in its treatment of the topic. It may lack development or fail to stay on topic. It may contain grammatical, mechanical, and/or usage errors that interfere with reader comprehension. An “F” essay does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment.

The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined by the SJSU Catalog (Grades-Letter Grading). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A+/A/A- = excellent; B+/B/B- = above average; C+/C/C- = average; D+/D/D- = below average; F = failure. Within any of the letter grade ranges (e.g. B+/B/B-), the assignment of a + or - grade will reflect stronger (+) or weaker (-) completion of the goals of the assignment.

**Questions/concerns about grades**

If you have a question or concern about a grade, please follow the following procedure:

- First, please wait 24 hours after the grade has been released. Within that period of time, please make sure you can access my feedback on your assignment.
- Second, email me to schedule a meeting that will take place a week later.
- Third, at that meeting, please bring a typed-up response to the grade. You should use the grading rubric of the assignment to address the areas where you think you should have earned more points and cite where you met those rubric items in your assignment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliographies</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Reflection Portfolio</td>
<td>10%</td>
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This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essay and Course Grades</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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**Classroom Protocol**

**Success in this Course:** I want you to be successful in this course. Throughout the course, you will have readings, discussion prompts, preparation assignments, drafts, and final papers to complete and submit. This is a Hybrid class, which means that you will complete some activities and assignments through Canvas. We will meet one time per week face to face in the classroom and for one class meeting, you will have reading, discussion prompts, online lessons, and writing assignments to complete online. It is important to consistently complete the online activities and resist letting your assignments pile up. To be successful, follow the weekly...
schedule and watch for reminders from Canvas. I recommend logging in at least three times per week to complete your work.

**Access to Computers and the Internet:** It is your responsibility to get to a computer to complete your work on time. Go to school, your local library, or a friend’s house if your computer crashes or your Internet goes down. Additionally, the library loans devices if you need one: [https://library.sjsu.edu/scs](https://library.sjsu.edu/scs). If you have concerns about completing any of the assignments in this course, please contact me well in advance of the due date.

**Participation and Active Learning:** Participation is essential to active learning and to the learning process in general. Participation includes but is not limited to being engaged in small and large group work, bringing materials to class, focusing on the task at hand and basically contributing to the learning process that will be happening in our workshop style classroom. If you cannot make a particular class, check Canvas and/or email the teacher or contact a dependable classmate to get updated on what you missed. You are responsible for all homework whether you are in class or not.

**Peer review:** Part of your grade is your involvement in and commitment to peer review. Peer review is a chance for you to get some valuable feedback from your peers on your rough drafts before turning them in. If you don’t come to a workshop for a given paper, or if your essay is not a “good faith” draft, you will not receive credit for that homework assignment (the rough draft is a HW assignment while the final draft is an essay). A “good faith” draft is typed and shows careful thought and planning even though it may be unfinished.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Please mute all electronic devices before entering the classroom and focus on the class content. In addition, we must treat others with respect and kindness so that we can build a safe and productive learning environment and writing community.

**Communication**

**Email:** Please use your SJSU email address or email through the Canvas Inbox. My email address is sarah.prasad@sjsu.edu. You should expect a response in 24 to 48 hours.

**Zoom:** Zoom is in our Canvas course, which allows us a way to video conference as a way to communicate. Please email to set up a time for us to meet on Zoom.

**Canvas Chat:** Chat sessions can also be arranged as a way for us to communicate. Please email me to arrange a time when we can meet in our Canvas course to Chat.

**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 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/)

Additionally, the link here provides information specific to the First Year English program: [http://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program_policies/index.html](http://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program_policies/index.html)
### Course Schedule

**NOTE:** Below is a general representation of class activities and assignments. This plan is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Notice of changes will be sent via email and posted on Canvas.

**LEGEND**  
LUNSFORD = Everyone’s an Author, 2nd Edition with MLA Updates, by Lunsford et al.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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| **Week 1** 1/27 | Complete the “Start Here” Module including the Benchmark  
Read LUNSFORD pgs. 18-33  
Preview: “MIT prof finds…” article by looking into the publisher and author for credibility and reliability  
Then read: “MIT prof finds…” |
| **Week 2** 2/1-2/3 | Quiz: LUNSFORD pgs. 18-33  
Read module Introduction and Learning Objectives  
Watch Videos and do Readings in Annotated Bibliographies Module  
Read: LUNSFORD pgs 500-504 Annotated Bibliography  
Discuss: Analyze “MIT prof finds…” article by commenting on one part of the article using one item on the Analysis Worksheet  
Due 2/3: Draft an Annotated Bib for “MIT Prof finds”  
Due 2/4: Peer Review on Annotated Bib for “MIT Prof finds” including feedback from MsP  
Due 2/3: Post an article link as an option for future Ann Bibs for MsP to choose from |
| **Week 3** 2/8-2/10 | Discussion: How do you address Audience? Write a text to Mom, sibling, and boss. Write one sentence about how the three differ.  
Revise: Annotated Bib for “MIT Prof finds”  
Due 2/8: Final draft of Annotated Bib for “MIT Prof finds”  
Read: Prompt: Annotated Bibliographies  
Quiz: Annotated Bibliographies  
Read Article #1  
Due 2/10: Write Ann Bib #1 taking into account feedback from previous Ann Bib |
| **Week 4** 2/15-2/17 | Read Article #2  
Due 2/15: Write Ann Bib #2 taking into account feedback from previous Ann Bibs  
Preview and read: LUNSFORD Ch 27  
Post: MLA in-text citations (LUNSFORD Ch 27) one thing that surprised you in the section  
Preview: Portfolium—click on Portfolium at left sidebar above SOTES and try to start a Portfolio Project for the final.  
Watch “Video: Getting Started on Portfolium” and set up your Portfolium  
HW: Set up Portfolium  
Read Article #3 |
| Week 5 2/22-2/24 | Due 2/17: Write Ann Bib #3 taking into account feedback from previous Ann Bib  
Due 2/22: Read Article #4  
Due 2/22: Write Ann Bib #4 taking into account feedback from previous Ann Bibs  
Discuss: What do you already know about Thesis Statements  
HW Read: Prasad Reader pg. 7 and LUNS福德 pgs 142 and 385-387 Thesis statements and taking a stance  
Quiz: Thesis Statements  
Due 2/24: Read Article #5  
Due 2/24: Write Ann Bib #5 taking into account feedback from previous Ann Bibs  
Preview then Read: LUNS福德 pgs. 400-402 Logical Fallacies |
| Week 6 3/1-3/3 | Quiz: Logical Fallacies  
Review: “Prompt: Opportunity through a Meme”  
Watch: “Video: How to Make a Meme”  
Create: A meme integrating the Logical Fallacies  
Post: Your meme as a JPEG.  
Like: 2 Memes from your peers  
Read: LUNS福德 pgs 79-89 The Writing Process  
Discussion: The Writing Process (LUNS福德 pgs 79-89). Write one thing that you would like to change about your process. Then find a peer that has written about something else you might like to also change.  
Due 3/3: Rough draft of Meme essay for Peer Review  
Due 3/3: Peer Review for Meme Essay  
Respond: to feedback in the comments section to confirm your understanding and/or ask questions if you have them.  
HW: Revise Meme Essay based on feedback |
| Week 7 3/8-3/10 | Due 3/8: Final draft Meme essay  
Preview: Gladwell—google him and see what you can find out about him before watching his TED. Is he a reliable source?  
Watch: Gladwell’s TED Talk “Choice, Happiness, and Spaghetti Sauce” and complete Analysis Worksheet while viewing.  
Discussion: academically appropriate topics for a TED Talk  
Read: “Steps for Making Your TED Talk”  
HW: Make a Talk of your own |
| Week 8 3/15-3/17 | Due 3/15: Post your own TED (YouTube link)  
Discuss: Watch a classmate’s TED. Analyze it using Analysis Worksheet and post a comment referring to 2 items from the Analysis Worksheet.  
Read: Analysis of a Student TED prompt  
Watch: “Video: Inductive and Deductive Reasoning” and “Another Video: Inductive and Deductive Reasoning.” Consider Gladwell’s talk and your own; did they use inductive or deductive reasoning?  
Quiz: Inductive and Deductive Reasoning  
Due 3/17: Rough draft of Student TED Analysis for Peer Review  
Due 3/17: Peer Review  
Due 3/19 Peer Review: Respond to MsP in the comments to acknowledge what you need to work on as you revise. |
<p>| Week 9 | Due 3/22: Final draft of Student TED Analysis |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 4/5-4/7</td>
<td>Preview then read: LUNSFORD Ch 25 Quote, paraphrasing, or summarizing and Ch 26 Giving Credit, Avoiding Plagiarism&lt;br&gt;Read: Concession (Prasad Reader p. 37) and answer the riddle&lt;br&gt;Discussion: In which case does he go to the movie and in which does he go home?&lt;br&gt;Finish: Concession (Prasad Reader p. 39-40)&lt;br&gt;Practice concession: Finding it in any article read thus far and posting examples.&lt;br&gt;Due 4/12: Annotated Bib #2 for MSE&lt;br&gt;Due 4/14: Annotated Bib #3 for MSE&lt;br&gt;Review: LUNSFORD pgs. xvii-xix Genres of Writing.&lt;br&gt;Discussion: Choose which genre you will write in for the MSE and what you will need to add and do in the MSE to make it that genre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11 4/12-4/14</td>
<td>Complete: MLK Tutorial: Plagiarism (<a href="https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism">https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism</a>)&lt;br&gt;Fix: MLA In-text Citation (Prasad Reader pgs. 24-25, questions 1-9 on your own, then check the answer key.)&lt;br&gt;Quiz: In-text Citation&lt;br&gt;Read: Prasad Reader pgs 12-14 Quotes&lt;br&gt;Post: A Quote Sandwich with source from Annotated Bib #1&lt;br&gt;Due 4/21: Rough Draft of MSE for Peer Review&lt;br&gt;Due: Peer Review done by 4/22 midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 15 | Due 5/5: Final draft MSE
|         | Continue: Migrating MSE onto Weebly
|         | Due 5/8: Post the link of your Weebly website as done
|         | **Week 15**
| 5/12-5/14 | Due 5/12: Rough Draft of Weebly Analysis for Peer Review
|         | Due 5/12: Peer Review
|         | 5/14: Optional ZOOM Workshop: Assessment Reflection Portfolio (Final)
| Week 16 | Due 5/17 Final Draft of Weebly Analysis
| 5/17    | **Finals**
|         | Assessment Reflection Portfolio
|         | Eng 2 Sec 18
|         | Monday, May 24, at 11:59pm
| Grades due | Friday, May 28

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