

San Jose State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
English 1A, Composition 2 (GE A2)
Section 70, Fall 2013

Instructor: Nicole Hughes **Office Location:** FO 214 **Telephone:** (408) 924-4600
Email: nicole.hughes@sjsu.edu (preferred method of communication) **Office Hours:** Tu/Th 2-3
Class Days/Time: Tu/Th 4:30-5:45 **Classroom:** Sweeney Hall 348
GE Category: Written Communication C3

Course Description

English 1A is the first course in SJSU's two-semester lower-division composition sequence; it provides an introduction to baccalaureate-level composition, with attention to the "personal voice" and personal experience, on the one hand, and the more formal attitudes and demands of writing at the university (expository and argumentative essays), on the other. Students will develop college-level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings.

Prerequisites: Placement by the English Proficiency Test (EPT), or passage of an approved substitute course for the EPT.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Students shall achieve the ability to write complete essays that demonstrate college-level proficiency in all of the following:

- Clear and effective communication of meaning.
- An identifiable focus, tailored to a particular audience and purpose (argumentative essays will state their thesis clearly and show an awareness, implied or stated, of some opposing point of view).
- The ability to perform effectively the essential steps of the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing).
- The ability to explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively.
- Effective use within their own essays of supporting material drawn from reading or other sources.
- Effective organization within the paragraph and the essay.
- Accuracy, variety, and clarity of sentences.
- Appropriate diction.
- Control of conventional mechanics (e.g. punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

Student Learning Objectives:

SLO 1: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to perform effectively the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing).

SLO 2: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively.

SLO 3: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to use correct grammar (syntax, mechanics, and citation of sources) at a college level of sophistication.

SLO 4: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to write for different audiences.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Tutoring: Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Students are encouraged to take advantage of our services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals. In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the WST, improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. We are located in SSC 600 (10th Street Garage), at the first floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. See the Peer Connections website for more information (peerconnections.sjsu.edu).

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.

Required Texts/Readings

Books (available from the Spartan Bookstore)

[WINSTON GRAMMAR PROGRAM-W/CARDS](#) By ERWIN, EDITION: 92, PUBLISHER: PRECIOUS, ISBN: 9781889673011

[BEDFORD BASICS:WKBK.F/WRITERS,REPRINT](#) By HACKER, EDITION: 3RD 98, PUBLISHER: MAC HIGHER, ISBN: 9781457648571

University Policies

Credit hours

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours per the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or 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.

Information available online

You are responsible for reading the following information online at

<http://www.sjsu.edu/english/comp/policyforsyllabi.html>

Course guidelines

Academic policies (academic integrity, plagiarism, ADA and DRC policies)

Adding and dropping classes

Classroom Protocol

As college students, you are expected to attend class, arrive on time, and behave with a level of maturity commensurate with your age and academic level. Attendance and completion of homework is essential

for this fast-paced class, with a heavy reading and writing load. In addition, you must treat your peers with courtesy and respect as this course is predicated on a collaborative atmosphere that requires class discussion, constructive criticism, and group interaction.

I. **Attendance and Participation** is evaluated based on completion of in-class assignments, quizzes, homework, and participation in class discussion. You CAN NOT make up any missed in-class activities. If you attend class everyday but do not participate in class discussions, your grade will be negatively affected.

II. **Late Work** receives a reduction of one letter grade per day it is late (this includes weekends). If you are sick or having to miss class for any other reason on the day something is due, arrange to have a classmate turn it in if you do not want a grade reduction. *I only accept late work in hardcopy form with the following at the top: Due Date, Date Turned In, Total Grade Reduction.*

III. **Turnitin.com** identifies possible sources of plagiarism. All papers must be submitted to turnitin.com by the day prior to the paper due date. Papers not submitted to turnitin.com will receive an automatic F, even if your hardcopy is turned in on time. CLASS ID: , ENROLLMENT PASSWORD:

IV. **Electronics** usage is not permitted in the classroom. All cell phones, laptops, iPads, etc. *must remain in your bag.*

Grading and Assignments:

Grading: A-F. This class must be passed with a C or better to move on to CORE GE Area C3 and to satisfy the prerequisite for English 1B. A passing grade in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English.

Total of 1000 points possible:

A 1000-940	B- 839-800	D+ 699-670
A- 939-900	C+ 799-770	D 669-640
B+ 899-870	C 769-740	D- 639-600
B 869-840	C- 739-700	F 599-0

Paper Format:

- 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced
- At the top of the first page: Name, English 1B, Class Section, and **word count**
- Number each page with your last name and page number in upper-right-hand corner (e.g. Hughes 3)
- Staple before class.

The Story of You (50 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 In 500 words or less, write a story that gives your audience (me) insight into who you are.

The World Needs More Love Letters (100 points total) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Write a letter (to a real person) in response to the prompt. (250 words each).

The New York Times Article (100 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Write an article in the style of the articles we read from The New York Times. (1,000 words)

Salon.com Personal Essay (100 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Write a personal essay in the style of the personal essays on Salon.com. (1,800 words)

Amazon.com Review (50 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Write a review of a book or product you are extremely familiar with. (300 words)

The Moth 5 minute oral story (100 points) Write and perform a personal (and true!) story that illuminates a life experience while appealing to a wide audience. (600 words)

Response to Article on Current Event (100 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Choose a current event article and write a response. (1,000 words)

General Academic Essay (150 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Write a formal, academic essay in response to the supplied prompt. (2,000 words)

Reflection Paper/Final Assignment (100 points) SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 Instead of a final exam, you will write a critical reflection at the end of the class. Think of it as a scientific study of your progress as a writer over the next four months. Remember, writing is a process. Collecting your work and then reflecting on that work is part of the process. The final assignment is designed to get you thinking about your specific challenges, your strategies for improvement, your successes and failures, and your goals for the future. Every writer, no matter how accomplished, has room for improvement. This assignment is your culminating experience. This course does not have a final exam.

Participation (150 points) Includes in-class group work and discussion, workshops, and grammar and style homework

Extra Credit SLO 1, 2, 3, 4: If you attend one of the literary-related events included on the last page of the syllabus and write a paper on the experience (500 words), you can receive a maximum of 10 points added to your grade, depending on the quality of the paper. The paper must include your thoughts about the event before you attend, a description of the event that creates a picture for your reader about the most significant elements of the event, your reflections on what you learned at the event, and your critique of the event (e.g. would you recommend others attend such an event? Why or why not?).

English 1A, Fall 2013, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change; changes will be announced in class
Additional homework and reading will be assigned on an ongoing basis

Wk	Date	Assignment Deadlines and Class Activities	Reading Homework
3	Tue. 9/3 Thu. 9/5	<i>New York Times</i> Article due; bring cards that came with your Winston Grammar Book to class	<i>Salon.com</i> personal essays; Winston wkshts 4, 5, 6 & 7; Bedford 91-96
4	Tue. 9/10 Thu. 9/12	Bring Winston Grammar Book Quiz 1 (to be completed in class); bring cards to class; workshop Natalie Alvarez & Jason Wada Bring cards to class	<i>Salon.com</i> personal essays; Winston wkshts 8, 9 & 10; Bedford 97-102 Winston wkshts 11, 12 & 13; Bedford 103-108
5	Tue. 9/17 Thu. 9/19	Bring Winston Grammar Book Quiz 2 (to be completed in class) <i>Salon.com</i> Personal Essay due; bring cards to class	Winston wkshts 14 & 15 <i>Amazon</i> reviews; Winston wkshts 16 & 17; Bedford 109-116
6	Tue. 9/24 Thu. 9/26	Workshop Brooke Bellinghausen, Jeffy Tran & Sydnee Morris Bring cards to class; SJSU Safety Workshop	<i>Amazon</i> reviews; Winston wkshts 18 & 19; Bedford 117-122 Winston wkshts 20 & 21; Bedford 123-136

Wk	Date	Assignment Deadlines and Class Activities	Reading Homework
7	Tue. 10/1	Bring Winston Grammar Book Quiz 3 (to be completed in class)	Bedford 137-164 (due 10/8)
	Thu. 10/3	Amazon.com Review due ; bring cards to class	<i>The Moth</i> podcast
8	Tue. 10/8	Bring cards to class; Workshop Joshua Benson, Kyle Blyth & Jessica Stacey	<i>The Moth</i> podcast; Winston wkshts 22 & 23; Bedford 165-186
	Thu. 10/10	Bring cards to class	Winston wkshts 24 & 25; Bedford 187-196
9	Tue. 10/15	Bring cards to class	Current events articles; Bedford 197-218 (due 10/22)
	Thu. 10/17	The Moth written portion due	Current events articles (SLO 1 assessment)
10	Tue. 10/22	Bring cards to class; Workshop Joel Garcia & Alex Guzman	Winston wkshts 26 & 27; Bedford 219-232
	Thu. 10/24	Workshop Tyler Sloan, Mitch Siwy & Chad Ocanada	
11	Tue. 10/29	Response to article on current event due ; Moth presentations	Winston wksht 28; Bedford 233-254
	Thu. 10/31	Workshop Jonathan Ingan & Mercel Saifi; Bring Winston Grammar Book Quiz 4 (to be completed in class)	Winston wksht 29; Bedford 287-304
12	Tue. 11/5	Workshop Vivian Ma & Miriam Michael	Winston wksht 30; Bedford 305-316
	Thu. 11/7	Moth presentations	Bedford 317-336
13	Tue. 11/12	Moth presentations	Bedford 337-344
	Thu. 11/14	Moth presentations; Bring Winston Grammar Book Posttest (to be completed in class)	Bedford 345-368 (due 11/19)
14	Tue. 11/19	Moth presentations	
	Thu. 11/21	General academic essay due	
15	Tue. 11/26	Workshop Cullen Kuhlrow & Luis Sandoval	
	Thu. 11/28	Workshop Frank Le & Kara Robertson	

Wk	Date	Assignment Deadlines and Class Activities	Reading Homework
16	Tue. 12/3	Workshop Kelly Miura & Alexis Reyes	
	Thu. 12/5	Final Reflection due	

Extra Credit Literary Events (see litart.org for more info):

- Aleksandar Hemon reading and book signing, September 18 at 7 p.m. in MLK Rm 225/229
- Aleksandar Hemon in conversation with Peter Orner, September 19 at 1 p.m. in MLK Rm 225/229
- Sandra Tsing Loh reading and book signing, October 15 at 7 p.m. in SJSU University Theatre
- Tom Barbash reading and book signing, October 30 at 7 p.m. in MLK Rm 225/229
- Barbara Jane Reyes reading and book signing, November 20 at 7 p.m. in MLK Rm 225/229

Important Fall 2013 Dates

First day of classes, Wednesday, 21 August
Labor day, Monday, 2 September
Last drop day, Tuesday, 3 September
Last add day, Tuesday, 10 September
Veteran's day, Monday, 11 November
Thanksgiving break, Thursday-Friday, 28-29 November
Last day of instruction, Monday, 9 December
Final Examinations, 11-13, 16-17, December
Grades due, Friday, 20 December.