

**San José State University**  
**Department of English and Comparative Literature**  
**English 1B, Composition 2 (GE C3), Section 41, Fall 2013**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Avantika Rohatgi
<b>Office Location:</b>	Faculty Offices Building 107
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-4488
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Avantika.Rohatgi@sjsu.edu">Avantika.Rohatgi@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	MW 12 noon – 1 p.m. T 2:00 - 2:50 p.m. and by appointment F 9:30 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	
<b>Classroom:</b>	Sweeney Hall 414
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Passage of Written Communication 1A (C or better) or approved equivalent.
<b>GE Category:</b>	Written Communication C3

### **Course Description**

English 1B is the second course in SJSU's two-semester lower-division composition sequence. Beyond providing repeated practice in planning and executing essays, and broadening and deepening students' understanding of the genres, audiences, and purposes of college writing, English 1B differs from English 1A in its emphasis on persuasive and critical writing (with less attention paid to the personal essay), its requirement for fewer but longer essays, and its introduction to writing informed by research. Students will develop sophistication in writing analytical, argumentative, and critical essays; a mature writing style appropriate to university discourse; reading abilities that will provide an adequate foundation for upper-division work; proficiency in basic library research skills and in writing papers informed by research; and mastery of the mechanics of writing.

**Prerequisites:** Passage of Written Communication 1A (C or better) or approved equivalent.

### **Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

Building on the college-level proficiencies required in English 1A, students shall achieve the ability to write complete essays that demonstrate advanced proficiency in *all* of the following:

- Clear and effective communication of meaning.
- An identifiable focus (argumentative essays will state their thesis clearly and will show an awareness, implied or stated, of some opposing point of view).
- An appropriate voice that demonstrates an awareness of audience and purpose.
- Careful attention to review and revision.
- Effective and correct use of supporting materials, including independent research (e.g., quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, and citing sources);

- Effective analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and synthesis of ideas encountered in multiple readings.
- Effective organization and development of ideas at paragraph and essay levels.
- Appropriate and effective sentence structure and diction.
- Command of conventional mechanics (e.g., punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

**Student Learning Objectives:**

SLO 1: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to refine the competencies established in Written Communication 1A.

SLO 2: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to use (locate, analyze, and evaluate) supporting materials, including independent library research, and identify key concepts and terms that describe the information needed.

SLO 3: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to select efficient and effective approaches for accessing information utilizing an appropriate investigative method or information retrieval system.

SLO 4: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to synthesize ideas encountered in multiple readings.

SLO 5: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to incorporate principles of design and communication to construct effective arguments.

SLO 6: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to identify and discuss issues related to censorship and freedom of speech.

**Information available online**

You are responsible for reading the following information online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/english/comp/policy/index.html>

- Course guidelines
- Academic policies (academic integrity, plagiarism, ADA and DRC policies)
- Estimation of Per-Unit Student Workload
- Recording policies
- Adding and dropping classes

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook**

- Rohatgi, Avantika. *Global Rights and Perceptions* (Revised First Edition – 2013). (ISBN: 978-1-62131-925-2). The required book for my course, ***Global Rights and Perceptions (First Edition)***, is published by Cognella Academic Publishing and distributed by University Readers, Inc. The book is now available for purchase through

the University Readers' student e-commerce store  
(<https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>).

- Lunsford, Andrea. *The Everyday Writer*.
- Kristof, Nicholas and WuDunn, Sheryl. *Half the Sky* (1st edition – 2009). (ISBN #: 978-0-307-26714-6)

### **Other equipment / material requirements**

- A college-level dictionary
- 4-8 large Greenbooks for in-class essays

### **Library Liaison for English courses**

Toby Matoush, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library

Voice: 408-808-2096

Email: [Toby.Matoush@sjsu.edu](mailto:Toby.Matoush@sjsu.edu)

Website: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/profile.php?uid=14949>

### **Classroom Protocol**

#### ***Class Participation and Attendance***

**All readings must be completed by the beginning of each class period. Please bring your books to every class meeting.** Our class is focused on controversial readings and may challenge your beliefs about American culture and society. Please be open-minded and respectful of others' opinions. Disagreement with the authors' or peers' opinions may be expressed respectfully. Most activities will be group-centered, therefore, prepare to engage in lively, intelligent, good-humored discussion. Please come prepared with questions and ideas on the reading assignments for each class. Please listen actively during class discussions and abstain from talking or texting.

**Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during class. Laptops may be used only during assigned class activities. Please do not walk in and out or eat during class. Covered drinks are acceptable.**

Participation in discussion and visible effort in collaborative activities will be closely monitored and counted toward the final grade. Absences/tardiness and consequent inability to be involved in daily classroom discussions, workshops, activities, etc. will impact your participation grade. Should you miss a class, connect with your peers in order to get notes and information on materials covered.

### **Course Content**

**Writing:** In English 1B, your assignments will emphasize the skills and activities in writing and thinking that produce both the persuasive argument and the critical essay, each of which demands analysis, interpretation, and evaluation. These assignments will give you repeated practice in prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Your writing assignments will

total a minimum of 8000 words and this word requirement will be met by writing a sequence of six to eight essays. At least one of your essays will require research. This 8000-word minimum does not include the final exam, quizzes, journals, or any brief or informal assignments but may include any major revisions of essays or assignments. A major revision is defined as rethinking or reworking an assignment rather than just correcting grammatical or structural errors. Your instructor has listed in this syllabus how you will meet the **8000** word minimum. **You must write all formal essays to pass the course.**

### Assignments and Grading Policy

**Grading:** A-F. A passing grade (D-) in the course signifies that the student has developed the writing, reading, and research abilities necessary for upper-division work. **You must complete all 6 essays in order to pass the course.**

#### *Grading Breakdown*

- Department Diagnostic (SLO 1, 4, 5) (600 words) 0%
- In-class Essay (SLO 1, 4, 5, 6) (1000 words total) 10%
- Group Unit Writing Project/Presentation (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (1000 words) 15%
- Critical Analysis(SLO 1, 4, 5, 6) (1500 words) 10%
- Research Paper and its Components (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) (2000 words) 25%
- Class Participation 10%
- Daily Journals (SLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6) (1000 words) 10%
- Quizzes, Author Reports and Discussion Generators (SLO 1, 3) 10%
- Reflective Essay (SLO 1, 2, 4, 5) (1000 words) 10%

The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the official SJSU *Catalog* (“The Grading System”). In English Department courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of the ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. Grades issued will represent a full range of student performance (no extra credit offered) and will adhere to the following SJSU academic standards of assessment:

- The "**A**" [90-92=A-, 93-96=A, 97-100=A+] = Excellent 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 construct sentences distinguished by syntactic complexity and variety. Such essays will be essentially free of grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors.
- The "**B**" [80-82=B-, 83-86=B, 87-89=B+] Above Average essay will demonstrate competence in the same categories as the "A" essay. The chief difference is that the "B" essay will show some descriptably slight weaknesses 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" [70-72=C-, 73-76=C, 77-79=C+] = Average: essay will complete all tasks set by the assignment, but show weakness 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" [60-62=D-, 63-66=D, 67-69=D+] = Below average: essay will neglect one of the assigned tasks and be noticeably superficial in its treatment of the assignment—that is, too simplistic or 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 usage errors that render some sentences incomprehensible.
- The "F" Failure: 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.

All assignments and exams will receive a letter grade, whose equivalent grade value (A: 4.0, A-: 3.7, B+: 3.3, etc., as specified at [http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/tutorials/grade\\_values.html](http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/tutorials/grade_values.html)) will be used to compute the composite grade value and equivalent final grade.

### **Assignment Descriptions**

- **Participation:** Participation in discussion and visible effort in collaborative activities will be closely monitored and counted toward the final grade. Inability to be involved in daily classroom discussions, workshops, activities, etc. will impact your participation grade.
- **Reports:** Each student will be required to submit one written, researched report on the authors being discussed. These will include a five-minute oral presentation on a writer of an assigned selection. You will also be expected to generate class discussion based on the selection by your author. **Missed reports cannot be made up.**
- **Group Research Project and Presentation:** In order to establish a link between active learning and writing, you will be engaged in a collaborative project that includes a research paper and presentation. The purpose of this activity is to develop knowledge through research as well as to promote exchange and understanding of varied viewpoints. You must be present for the presentation in order to get full credit.
- **Reading Responses:** Readings will be used consistently with the course goal of enhancing ability in written communication and reading. The majority of the readings consist of analytical, critical, and argumentative essays. Students should write 1-2 pages of response to each of the works assigned as preparation for every class meeting. Your thoughts, ideas or reactions to the text may take the form of 1) brainstorming notes 2) answers to thought-provoking questions generated by your reading of the text or 3) finished essays. The aim of these responses is to help sharpen your intuitive thinking and interpretative insight, as well as to generate ideas for your formal essays. In addition, it will benefit you to raise issues, take notes and be actively involved with the reading. Include questions and concerns that occur during your reading of the text so that we can address them in class discussions. **Reading responses will be assessed as part of participation grade and will not be accepted late.**
- **Peer Review Workshops:** Most out-of-class essays will be peer reviewed in class prior to the due date. These workshops are an important component of the writing process. They will give you the opportunity to receive valuable feedback from your peers. A complete rough

draft needs to be finished prior to the workshop; outlines or incomplete drafts will not be acceptable. You must turn in all workshop materials with the final copy of the essay.

**Missed workshops cannot be made up.**

- **Research Paper:** English 1B includes an introduction to the library and basic research strategies. You will learn how to locate materials and use them effectively (i.e. paraphrasing, quoting, summarizing) as well as proper citation formats. You will be required to write a traditional research paper and other short essays in which you use library research to inform your position or thesis. As part of this requirement, a University Librarian will lead one class session of your English 1B course.

Please remember that your research paper and its components are worth 25% of your class grade. You will have significant time to research and write, so please be prepared to turn in your best work. The following assignments are components of your research paper and must be included in your final portfolio:

- Rough draft of your complete essay
- Peer review received on your essay
- Final essay
- Works cited page demonstrating your research
- Copies from three of your sources with information used as citations highlighted

**No late or electronic submissions will be accepted.**

- **Final Assignment:** 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.

### **Due Dates**

**No late papers will be accepted.** In-class essays can only be made up if the student has given significant rationale along with advance notice or can provide official documentation from a physician. **In-class assignments including peer reviews and any formal presentations cannot be made up.**

### **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 practicals. Other course structures will have equivalent work load expectations as described in the syllabus.

## Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## SJSU Writing Center



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.

## SJSU Peer Connections

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) and the Peer Mentor Program have merged to become Peer Connections. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Our staff is here to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. 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 Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## English 1B, Section 41, Fall 2013, Course Schedule

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Reading assignments must be completed by the day they are listed. All assigned readings are from *Global Rights and Perceptions* unless indicated otherwise. Please bring your textbook to class every day.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	F Aug 23	Introduction, Discussion of Syllabus, Course Overview
2	F Aug 30	<b>Essay #1 (In-class Diagnostic)</b> (600 words; SLO 1, 4, 5) <b>Bring Green book(s), pens, and your dictionary.</b> <i>Are Human Rights Universal?</i> (Franck) <i>Google Privacy Practices Worse Than ISP Snooping, AT&amp;T Charges</i> (Singel) Discussion (SLO 1, 3, 6),
3	F Sept 6	Essay #2 Assignment and Discussion (SLO 1, 4, 5) <i>Women Sportscasters</i> (Grubb, Billiot), <i>Beauty and the Beast of Advertising</i> (Jean Kilbourne)
4	F Sept 13	<b>Due: Essay #2: Analysis</b> (1500 words; SLO 1, 4, 5, 6) <i>America: Home of the Brave</i> (Hammond), <i>Stop Saying "Same-Sex" Marriage</i> (Frye), <i>Our Man and His Goats</i> (Saba), <i>Don't Fear the Pirates</i> (Hunt), )
5	F Sept 20	<i>The Meaning of the F-word</i> (Winterson) <i>The Marriage Business</i> (Khan) Group Project Assigned Work on Group Project (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)
6	F Sept 27	Library Session (SLO 2, 3) – MLK Library, Room TBA <i>Blood Diamonds Are Back</i> (Campbell)
7	F Oct 4	<i>Human Trafficking and Slavery</i> (Masci), <i>Kidneys To Go: Dis-Ordering the Body in a Pretty Dirty Economy</i> (Ewart) Work on Group Project (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)
8	F Oct 11	<b>Due: Essay #3, Group Project and Presentation</b> (1500 words; SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
9	F Oct 18	<b>Essay #4: In-class: Argument</b> (1000 words; SLO 1, 4, 5, 6) <b>Bring Green book(s), pens, and your dictionary</b> Research Paper - Objectives and Expectations <i>Curbing Female Foeticide</i> (Bose), <i>A Brief History of Infanticide</i> (Milner)
10	F Oct 25	<i>Half the Sky</i> : Reading and Discussion (SLO 4, 5, 6)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	F Nov 1	<b>Due: Tentative Thesis Statement</b> (SLO , 3, 4, 5,) Thesis Evaluation and Research Strategies
12	F Nov 8	<i>Acid Attacks: Changing the Face of Reality</i> (Sprelich), <i>Mutilation by any Other Name</i> (Ameigh), <i>Is Google Making Us Stupid?</i> (Carr), <i>The Critics Need a Reboot</i> (Wolman)
13	F Nov 15	<b>Due: Rough Draft of Essay #5: Research Paper</b> (SLO 1,2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Peer Review Workshop (SLO 1, 2, 5, 6) <i>When did Immigrants Become the Enemy?</i> (Lam) <i>Its Time for the Global Village to Stand Up for Our Children</i> (Day)
14	F Nov 22	<b>Due: Draft of Reflective Essay #6</b> (SLO 1, 3, 4, 5, 6) In-class peer review workshop <i>That Used to Be Us</i> (Friedman, Mandelbaum) <b>Class Presentations of Final Research Paper</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
15	F Nov 29	<i>Thanksgiving Break – No class</i>
16	F Dec 6	<b>Due: Essay #5: Final Research Paper</b> (2000 words) (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) <b>Due: Reflective Essay # 6</b> (1200 words) (SLO 1, 3, 4, 5, 6) Class presentations continued.

### Important SJSU dates Fall 2013

Wednesday	August 21	First Day of Instruction – Classes Begin
Monday	September 2	Labor Day - Campus Closed
Tuesday	September 3	Last Day to Drop Without Entry on Permanent Record
Tuesday	September 10	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late
Wednesday	September 18	Enrollment Census Date
Monday	November 11	Veteran's Day - Campus Closed
Wednesday	November 27	Classes that start at 5:00 PM or later will not meet. Thursday
	November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday - Campus Closed
Friday	November 29	Rescheduled Holiday - Campus Closed
Monday	December 9	Last Day of Instruction - Last Day of Classes
Tuesday	December 10	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams)
Wednesday-Friday	December 11-13	Final Examinations (exams)
Monday-Tuesday	December 16-17	Final Examinations (exams)
Wednesday	December 18.	Final Examinations Make-Up Day (MU)
Thursday	December 19	Grade Evaluation Day