

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
ENGLISH 1B: ARGUMENT & ANALYSIS, SPRING 2017

COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Richard McNabb
Office Location:	FO Building #214
Telephone:	(408) 924-1382
Email:	richard.mcnabb@sjsu.edu
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday / Thursday 7:30-8:45 am & 9:00-10:15 am
Office Hours:	Tuesday / Thursday 10:30-11:45 am, and by appointment
Classroom:	BBC 122
Prerequisites:	Successful completion of ENGL 1A or ENGL 1AF/1AS
GE Area:	English 1B satisfies GE area C2: Letters

COURSE MANAGEMENT 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 to learn of any updates.

GENERAL 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. You will practice prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing, and you will practice reading closely in a variety of forms, styles, structures, and modes.

SECTION-SPECIFIC COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENGL 1B is a literature-based course that focuses on argumentation. We will approach the argument from an historical perspective. Through the study of literary, rhetorical, and professional texts, you will be introduced to different theories from ancient times to the twenty-first century. You will also learn how to apply this literacy to write persuasively in different rhetorical situations.

ENGL 1B LEARNING OUTCOMES (GELO)

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

1. recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns, especially as it relates to education;

2. respond to such works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses;
3. write clearly and effectively.

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS

- Course readings are available on Canvas, online, or through MLK Library databases
- Digital access to the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (available free through the MLK database)

ENGL 1B COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Written Assignments

Writing assignments (see below) will give you repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. You will receive frequent evaluations of your writing from me and your class peers. Evaluative comments will be substantive, addressing both the logic of the argument and the quality and form of the writing. Comments will encourage and acknowledge success as well as note problems and suggest ways to improve.

1. *Discussion boards*: You will post weekly writing assignments on Canvas designed to stimulate your thinking about “issues, questions, and problems raised in class discussions and course readings.” For the most part you will be rewarded “for the process of thinking rather than for the end product produced.” Unless otherwise noted, your online postings are due Sunday by midnight.
2. *Short Writing Tasks*: You will write a number of informal assignments designed to provide practice in the different rhetorical concepts discussed in class and in the course readings. These tasks will require you both to analyze and to create arguments using the strategies and frameworks developed by the different theorists.
3. *Rhetorical Maps*: You will construct two documents that map out an argument. Think of the maps as a detailed outline of an argument.
4. *Formal Writing Assignments*: You will write three formal essays. Each essay will go through at least one revision before receiving a grade. Refer to the daily schedule for each assignment due date.

Reading Questions: In addition to being writing intensive, ENGL 1B is also a reading course. You will read a variety of rhetorical and professional works on the art and craft of persuasive language. The assigned readings must be completed by the beginning of each class session, and all discussions and assignments will be based on the reading material. I will assign study questions to help guide your reading. It will be impossible to be a successful student in this course if the daily reading is not completed.

Multimodal Presentations: You will present in support of or in opposition to an issue discussed in class. Presentations must contain visual, written, and audio design elements.

Discussion Facilitator / Class Participation: You and a fellow classmate will lead a class discussion on issues discussed in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. You are expected to participate actively in class. You cannot make up missed points for participation if you are absent from class. A limited number of absences for illness

and other emergencies have been factored into the final point value, so a few missed classes will not affect your grade. Excessive absences, however, will.

Assignments and Learning Goals

Assignment	GELO
Reading questions, discussion boards, class participation, discussion facilitator	1
short writing tasks	1-2
Rhetorical Maps	1-3
Essay #1 Classical Argument	2, 3
Essay #2 Rogerian Argument	2, 3
Essay #3 Stylistic Analysis	2, 3
Multimodal Presentations	1-3

Grading Policy

Requirements for particular assignments will vary, but in all cases grades for formal/major essays will reflect the paper’s effectiveness, which I have 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 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.

Total point value for the course is 1000. At the end of the semester, your overall course grade will be calculated as follows:

<u>Individual Assignment Point Values</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Point Value</u>
Reading questions, discussion boards, facilitator, class participation	5%	50
Short Writing Tasks	10%	100
Rhetorical Maps	20%	200
Essay #1	20%	200
Essay #2	20%	200
Essay #3	15%	150
Multimodal Presentations	10%	100
Total Points:		1000

Course Grade Point Values

1000-930	A	769-730	C
929-900	A-	729-700	C-
899-870	B+	699-670	D+
869-830	B	669-630	D
829-800	B-	629-600	D-
799-770	C+	599-0	F

Classroom Protocol

Attendance: University policy F69-24: “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit for all members of the class.”

Cell Phones: It is disrespectful to text in class. To resist temptation, please keep your phone out-of-sight.

Leaving the Classroom: Once class has started, **you are not permitted to leave without permission.** Anyone leaving class will be asked not to return. It is disruptive to class discussions when students are walking in and out of the room. During group work, you will have the opportunity to leave class briefly to use the bathroom facilities.

Canvas: Much of the course materials will be posted on Canvas: syllabus, readings, and assignment sheets. Class announcements will be made through Canvas as well. Be sure to check your account daily. Unless otherwise stated, your completed weekly writing assignments will be submitted through Canvas. **You will need access to a laptop, tablet, or smartphone** to participate in class discussions and activities.

Lateness: As a general rule, I do not accept late essays (revisions or drafts) without a **10-point penalty.** However, you have three “late passes” that will allow you a day’s extension without penalty. You can use all the passes on one assignment (allowing you three extra days to submit the essay), or you spread them out over the semester. Illnesses do not excuse you from missing a due date, so use these passes wisely. Unlike essays, I do not accept late homework or informal writing assignments (late passes cannot be used). If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact me or a classmate to find out the assignment. **Computer excuses are not acceptable in this class.** Except in extreme cases of illness or emergencies, there will be NO make-up quizzes or exams unless you have arranged other accommodations with me before the exam date.

Extra Credit: There are no opportunities for extra credit in the course.

University Policies

The link below contains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, student accommodations, etc. It is important that you review them.

http://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program_policies/index.html

ENGL 1B WEEKLY SYLLABUS
(SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH FAIR NOTICE)

Key: Rd = Read SWT = Short Writing Task DB = Discussion Board Thread

- Unless otherwise noted, discussion board postings are due on Sundays by midnight.
- Unless otherwise noted, team presentations will be held on Thursdays in class.
- All texts are available on Canvas, online, through MLK Library databases, in *The Chronicle of Higher Ed*, or as a handout distributed in class. Additional articles not listed on the syllabus may be assigned during class.

Week	Date	Topics and Readings	Assignments
1	Th Jan 26	Introduction to argument	
2	T Jan 31 Th Feb 2	Defining arguments philosophically and rhetorically Rd: Plato, "Gorgias" (3-21) and "Phaedrus" (22-45)	DB
3	T Feb 7 Th Feb 9	Ethical and emotional arguments (arguing from character and emotions) Rd: Aristotle (53-63, 149-153)	DB Team #1
4	T Feb 14 Th Feb 16	Logical arguments (arguing from reason and rationality) Rd: Aristotle (161-170, start from last ¶ on 161)	DB SWT Team #2
5	T Feb 21 Th Feb 23	Finding points of contention (agreeing to disagree) Arranging arguments rhetorically Rd: Cicero (196-205)	SWT Team #3
6	T Feb 28 Th Mar 2	Psychological arguments (arguing from cognitive evidence) Rd: Campbell (902-905, 912-914, 916-921, 923-936, read for the argument)	DB Aristotle map due (Thurs) Team #4
7	T Mar 7 Th Mar 9	Delivering arguments rhetorically	Team #5
8	T Mar 14 Th Mar 16	Reviewing arguments rhetorically	Campbell map due (Tues) SWT Team #6
9	T Mar 21 Th Mar 23	Library instruction Workshop roundtable	Library tutorial modules
10	T Mar 28 Th Mar 30	Spring Break	
11	T Apr 4 Th Apr 6	Gendered arguments (arguing from masculine and feminine positions) Rd: Castiglione (665-671), Sigourney (143-156), More (115-128), Edgewood (132-139)	Essay #1 draft (Tues) Peer review (Thurs) Essay #1 revision (Sun) DB Team #7
12	T Apr 11 Th Apr 13	Mediating arguments (arguing from negotiation and common ground) Rd: Notes on Rogers (126-29, 141-49)	Essay #2 draft (Sun) Team #8
13	T Apr 18 Th Apr 20	Stylistic arguments (using language rhetorically) Rd: Cicero, on style (232-239)	SWT Team #9

14	T Apr 25 Th Apr 27	Stylistic arguments	SWT Team #10
15	T May 2 Th May 4	Multimodal arguments (arguments of mixed-media) Rd: Johnson-Sheehan	Essay #2 revision (Tues) Team #11 SWT
16	T May 9 Th May 11	Workshop roundtable	Team #12 Essay #3 (Sun)
17	T May 16	Reviewing arguments rhetorically	
	Fri May 19	Final Exam for ENGL 1B-3 from 7:15-9:30	Multimodal project
	Tues May 23	Final Exam for ENGL 1B-7 from 7:15-9:30	Multimodal project