

San José State University
Department of English & Comparative Literature
English 1A - Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Nicole Justin

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Class Days/Time: Tuesday/ Thursday 9:00 - 10:15 - Class SH413
Tuesday/ Thursday 10:30 - 11:45 - Class SH413
Tuesday/ Thursday 12:00 - 1:15 - Class SH238
Tuesday/ Thursday 3:00 - 4:15 - Class BBC121

Office Hours: Tuesday/ Thursday 1:30 - 2:30 and by appointment

Prerequisites: Successful completion of *Reflections on College Writing*

GE Area: GE area A2: Written Communication I

COURSE FORMAT:

COURSE MANAGEMENT PAGE AND MYSJSU MESSAGING

Students will be responsible for regularly checking Canvas and MySJSU where course materials, such as syllabus, readings, discussions, assignment descriptions and rubrics, can be accessed. This is also the best way to get in touch with me.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENGL 1A is an introductory writing course that will help you understand the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication. Through interpretation and analysis of texts, you will learn to think clearly and write effectively as you give form and coherence to complex ideas. You will explore writing for various audiences and rhetorical situations.

ENGL 1A LEARNING OUTCOMES (GELO)

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 several genres;
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing.

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS

- Course readings are available on Canvas, online, or through MLK Library databases

READING ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE POSTED ON CANVAS WEEKLY

ENGL 1A 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 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 frequently engage in activities (in and out of class) that will provide you with feedback about your writing and opportunities to improve.

1. Discussion boards: Most weeks will have a discussion board assignment on Canvas that is designed to continue the discussion on the topics of the week. These assignments are more about participation and displaying evidence of critical thinking. Posts and responses will be due by Monday at midnight.

2. Short Writing Tasks: You will do several in class writing assignments that will provide you with opportunities to practice new writing skills and strategies.

3. Formal Writing Assignments: You will write three formal essays. Each essay will go through at least one draft (with revision feedback from me and/or classmates) before receiving a grade. Refer to the daily schedule for assignment due dates.

4. Presentation: You will collaborate with fellow classmates to design a ...

5. Debate: You and your classmates will be responsible for researching and organizing notes to participate in an in-class debate. Participation is mandatory and you will be required to submit your notes.

Writing Portfolio: At the end of the semester you will compile a portfolio of your writing that documents how you met the learning goals of the course.

ASSIGNMENTS AND LEARNING GOALS:

Assignment	GELO
Discussion Board	1, 3, 4
Short Writing Tasks	1, 2, 3, 5
Annotated Bibliography	2, 4
Essay 1 - Rhetorical Analysis	1 - 5
Essay 2 - Comparison	2, 3, 5
Essay 3 - Argumentative	2 - 5
Debate	1, 3, 4
Presentation	2 - 5
Portfolio	1 - 5

GRADING POLICY

Formal essays, rhetorical maps, writing portfolio: Requirements for these particular assignments will vary, but in all cases grades will reflect the assignment'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.

Discussion board, short writing tasks: For the most part, you will receive credit “for the process of thinking rather than for the end product produced.” At the end of the semester, grades will be based on the number of assignments completed. For example, if you complete 90% of the discussion board postings and short writing task, you will receive an A; 80% of them a B, and so on.

Individual Assignments Point Values	Percentage	Points
● Discussion Board	5%	10
● In Class Task 1	5%	20
● In Class Task 2	10%	20
● Annotated Bibliography	5%	20
● Essay 1	15%	100
● Essay 2	15%	100
● Essay 3	15%	100
● Debate	10%	100
● Presentation	10%	100
● Portfolio	10%	100
	Total Points =	670

Grade Values

100% - 95%	A	74% - 70%	C-
94% - 90%	A-	69% - 65%	D
89% - 85%	B	64% - 60%	D-
84% - 80%	B-	59% - 0%	F
79% - 75%	C		

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 until it's needed for an activity / assignment.

Leaving the Classroom: It is disruptive to class when students are walking in and out of the room. Please leave only in the event of an emergency, make sure that you use the bathroom before coming to class.

Canvas: Much of the course materials will be posted on Canvas: syllabus, readings, and assignment rubrics. Class announcements will be made through Canvas as well. Be sure to check your account daily. Unless otherwise stated, your assignments will be submitted through Canvas, and will not be accepted via any other method. There are very few assignments that will not be done on Canvas so make sure you are familiar with the system.

Lateness: Is unacceptable. Discussion Board assignments, quizzes, presentations, and the debate can NOT be made up or submitted late (pending extreme situations). Written assignments will be docked 5 points per day, an assignment submitted at midnight will incur this penalty.

I also think it is important to be on time for class meetings, I find it disrespectful to myself and your classmates to arrive late.

If you miss class it is your responsibility to contact me to find out what you have missed.

Extra Credit: I do NOT offer extra credit. However, there will be opportunities in class to earn extra points, you MUST be present to take advantage of these opportunities.

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topics	Assignments
1	Introductions/ Writing Process	In Class Writing Assignment
2	Analyzing Context/ Ethos, etc.	Discussion Board
3	Rhetorical Strategies & Devices	In Class Writing Assignment
4	Logical Fallacies	Discussion Board
5	Drafting and Editing	Essay #1 Due Friday BEFORE Midnight
6	Paraphrasing, Plagiarism, Analysis	Discussion Board
7	Discussion of Films for second essay	Discussion Board
8	Giving a good Presentation/ In class editing	Discussion Board
9	PRESENTATIONS	PRESENTATIONS
10	Editing	Essay #2 Due Friday BEFORE Midnight
11	Sources, Bibliographies, Introduce essay #3	Annotated Bibliography Due Friday BEFORE Midnight
12	Art of Argument/ Perspectives	Discussion Board
13	In Class Debate	In Class Debate
14	TBD - Thanksgiving week	None
15	Editing	Essay #3 Due Friday BEFORE Midnight
16	Preparing Portfolio	None
17	FINAL EXAMS	Portfolio Due December 14th BEFORE Midnight

** Readings are posted on canvas**