

**San José State University**  
**ENGL 2: Critical Thinking and Writing, Section 1**  
**Fall 2021**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	7:15-8:30am PT Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Classroom:</b>	Online via Zoom
<b>Instructor:</b>	Helen Meservey
<b>Email:</b>	Canvas message and/or <a href="mailto:helen.meservey@sjsu.edu">helen.meservey@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Office Location:</b>	Faculty Office Building 114 and Virtual via Zoom
<b>Office Hours:</b>	FOB 115: 1-2pm PT Friday and by appointment and Zoom: 11am-12pm PT Tuesday and by appointment
<b>Telephone:</b>	408.924.4323 (during FOB office hours only)
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	ENGL 1A, 1A-F/S (with a grade of C- or better)
<b>Canvas:</b>	<a href="http://sjsu.instructure.com">http://sjsu.instructure.com</a>

**Course Description**

This course continues instruction in writing expository prose. Emphasis is placed on the critical connection between thinking and writing. Building on English 1A, students extend their the study of stylistic and grammatical conventions in formal writing; in English 2 students explore the relationship between language and logic in composing arguments. This course calls for analytical writing based on readings and research materials. Students are expected to read complex texts —both fiction and nonfiction—and the work of their peers in order to develop a critical understanding of argument and reason, both in the recognition of the strategies of other texts and the effective management of their own writing.

Through a series of integrated reading, writing, and oral assignments, students engage complex issues that require critical thinking and argumentation. Students must demonstrate the ability to write accurate, coherent, and thoughtful argumentative essays and to integrate academic source material into their writing. To this end, instruction will focus on strategies for organization, development, research, and revision.

## Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students 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 your 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).

## Course Texts

Jiang, Ji-li: *Red Scarf Girl*

Whitehead, Colson: *The Nickel Boys*

Readings as assigned on Canvas

## Technology Requirements

Canvas: We will be using Canvas throughout this course.

Login URL: <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. Please note that the URL should NOT have the “www at the start of the address like many other websites. It is recommended that you visit the eCampus Canvas website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>, which offers a number of Quick Start Learning Guides to help you navigate Canvas tools. Also, detailed guides can be found at <http://guides.instructure.com/>.

Username: your SJSU 9-digit ID number.

Password: Self-generated password for your SJSUOne account

Turnitin.com: We use Turnitin.com for the main writing assignments. The turnitin software is already embedded within Canvas, so you do not need an additional password to access turnitin.com.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

Specific details for each assignment below will be posted to Canvas.

- 1 analysis of faulty argumentation
- 1 persuasive research essay
- 1 analysis of literature
- 2 reading responses
- homework and participation
- 1 final reflection essay
- 1 portfolio

**Total point value for the course is 1,000. Course grades are calculated according to the scale below:**

94% - 100%	84% - 86%	74% - 76%	64% - 66%
A	B	C	D
90% - 93%	80% - 83%	70% - 73%	60% - 63%
A-	B-	C-	D-
87% - 89%	77% - 79%	67% - 69%	60% - 59%
B+	C+	D+	F

Assignment	Total Words	Total Points	% Grade
Analysis of Argumentation	2,000 (plus revisions)	200	20
Persuasive Research	2,000 (plus revisions)	200	20
Analysis of Literature	1,000 (plus revisions)	200	20
Homework and participation	NA	250	25
Portfolio	NA	150	15

### Grading Policy

To receive full credit, essays and other assignments must be submitted on time on the posted due date—note deadlines included in assignment details. ***Please note that no unexcused late work will be accepted. If you cannot make a deadline, you must contact me BEFORE THE DUE DATE.***

Peer workshops are mandatory (see course schedule): if you miss a mandatory workshop day or fail to prepare drafts for workshop, your grade for that essay will be scaled down half a letter grade.

### Classroom Protocol

Writing can be a solitary enterprise, but the critical thinking and habits of mind that go into such work can be developed and enriched in community. Thus, it is imperative that you attend every class and participate in class activities and discussions. Class participation entails: (1) demonstrating that you've completed the readings, (2) contributing to discussions, and (3) completing in-class assignments. Electronic resources such as laptops, tablets, and phones may be used during class only to compose select assignments, or access course materials on Canvas. Please be sure that social media and other distractions not related to our course pursuits are turned OFF during class.

## University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

## IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES

Statement of Plagiarism: The English Departments emphasizes that we adhere strictly to the rules against plagiarism as set forth in the SJSU Catalog. The Catalog defines plagiarism as follows:

*Plagiarism. At SJSU, plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements.*

Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

1. The act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work; and
2. Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawing, sculptures or similar works as one's own.(available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html> - Student Responsibilities - Discipline – Policy on Academic Dishonesty – 1.0 Definitions of Academic Dishonesty)

Should a student plagiarize in any ENGL 2 course, the instructor will report the student to the University's Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Also, points will be deducted from the assignment/course depending on the severity of the policy violation.

How to avoid plagiarism. It is not always easy to recognize whether you are legitimately citing the work of others or whether you have "crossed the line" into plagiarism. To become acquainted with what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, the following SJSU website offers definitions, policies, and links to useful websites offering guidelines in plagiarism prevention. Students are fully accountable for understanding these policies. <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism/how-to-avoid-plagiarism>

## **SJSU Peer Connections**

Please see the Peer Connections web page [<https://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2021 semester.

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while learning to successfully navigate their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of these 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 small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, Peer Connections offers consultation with mentors 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 topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

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

## **SJSU Writing Center**

Please see the SJSU Writing Center web page [<https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2021 semester.

The SJSU Writing Center now has two locations: Writing Specialists conduct drop-in tutoring sessions in Clark Hall, Suite 126 and hold regularly scheduled tutoring sessions on the second floor in the MLK Library. 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 at <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. Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.

## **SJSU Counseling Services**

Please see the SJSU CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) web page [<https://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2021 semester.

The SJSU Counseling Services is located in the Student Wellness Center, 3rd Floor, Room 300B, (corner of 7th and San Carlos St., across from the Event Center). Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate, or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

## ENGLISH 2, Section 1

### Fall 2021 Course Schedule

*Schedule below subject to change; any updates will be communicated with fair notice in class and via Canvas.*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	8/19	<i>Pre-instruction activities: no class meeting</i>	Course introduction “It’s all about the reader”
2	8/24-26	Rhetoric of argument  READ <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> , pp.xi-71	Quiz 1  READ <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> , pp. 72-155 “Logical Fallacies”
3	8/31-9/2	Reflection 1: GELO 3  READ <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> , pp. 156-229 “Rhetorical Strategies”	Workshop prep  READ <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> , pp.230-272 (end) “Argumentative Appeals”
4	9/7-9	<b>Peer review workshop 1: Analysis of Argumentation Draft OR Library Research Class</b>  READ “Critiquing Drafts”	Quiz 2 <b>Peer review workshop 1: Analysis of Argumentation Draft OR Library Research Class</b>
5	9/14-16	Reflection 2: GELO 5 Editing and Revising  READ “Editing: Paragraphs and Sentences”	Asynchronous Class: See Canvas for assignment: <b><i>No class meeting</i></b>  READ “Editing: Diction”
<b>DEADLINE: Friday, October 17: Analysis of Argumentation Essay Final Draft</b>			
6	9/21-23	Reflection 3: GELO 1  READ “Integrating Print Sources Effectively”	Using evidence from sources
7	9/28-30	<b>Reading Response 1</b>	Quiz 3 Critical analysis
8	10/5-7	<b>Peer review workshop 2: Persuasive Research Essay Draft</b>	Annotated Bibliography

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
9	10/12-14	READ “Review of editing and revising”	Asynchronous Class: See Canvas for assignment: <b><i>No class meeting</i></b>
<b>DEADLINE: Friday, October 15: Persuasive Research Essay Final Draft</b>			
10	10/19-21	Reflection 4: GELO 4 READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , Prologue to p. 42	READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , pp. 45–83
11	10/26-28	Summary and analysis READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , pp. 84–114	Quiz 4 READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , pp. 115-143
12	11/2-4	READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , pp. 144-168	READ <i>The Nickel Boys</i> , pp. 169-210 (end)
13	11/9-11	<b>Peer review workshop 3: Analysis of Argumentation Draft</b>	Veterans’ Day <b>No class meeting</b>
14	11/16-18	Reflection 5: GELO 2 READ Portfolio instructions	Asynchronous Class: See Canvas for assignment: <b><i>No class meeting</i></b>
<b>DEADLINE: Friday, November 15: Literary Analysis Essay Final Draft</b>			
15	11/23-25	<b>Reading Response 2</b>	Thanksgiving Day <b>No class meeting</b>
16	11/30-12/2	<b>Peer Review Workshop 4: Reflection Essay and Portfolio</b>	Quiz 5 <b>Last Class!</b>
17	12/8	<b>DEADLINE: Final Reflection Essay and Portfolio 9:30am PT Wednesday, December 8, 2021</b>	
		<b>Congratulations! Enjoy your year-end break.</b>	