

**San José State University**  
**English and Comparative Literature**

**English 2, Argument and Analysis | 650-269-1288 (my cell)**

**Spring 2021 Sections 3, 12 & 15**

*Welcome to Critical Thinking and Writing: Sustainability, Accidental Advocates and You!*

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s): Sherri Harvey  
Office Location: Zoom @  
Telephone: 650-269-1288  
Email: sherri.harvey@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: Thursdays 9-12  
Class Days/Time:

- **Sections 3, (asynchronous=all online)**
- **12 | meets Tuesday 7:30-8:45 = synchronous**
- **15 | meets Tuesday 9:00-10:15 = synchronous**

**Synchronous classes will meet via Zoom on Tuesdays. Thursdays are work days, and I will be available any time on Thursdays from 9-12. Feel free to text me the day before to let me know you plan to join.**

**Please note: if you are taking this class asynchronously, it is entirely online, HOWEVER, you are welcome to ANY of the synchronous classes. You can read more about this [here](#).**

**SECTION 3: you are completely on your own in terms of obligation to Zooming or meeting with me, (except for your final group presentations) but I am here if you need me!**

**SECTIONS 12 and 15 ARE synchronous CLASSES, which means that those sections will meet on Tuesdays and have online assignments to complete on Thursdays. I will be available for questions and help on Thursdays, but your work time is up to you. You will**

**need to figure out how to complete your work on your own time rather than a face-to-face meeting.**

**In this course, we will explore the relationship between language and logic in composing arguments related to the theme of sustainability.**

**Course Theme: BECOME AN ACCIDENTAL ADVOCATE: SAVING THE PLANET**

**We will explore our own cognitive biases that inform us of the differences between what we think and how we are influenced. We will examine rhetoric and language and how the things around us (the media, YOUTUBE, Social Media, COMICS) to think about the forces in society that shape our biases, and consider how awareness and education affect those biases.**

**Through a series of integrated reading, writing, and oral assignments, you will engage in complex issues that require critical thinking and argumentation. Building on English 1A, you will extend your study of stylistic and grammatical conventions in formal writing. Using essays, videos, tweets and poems, we will explore how the things we read, see, watch, understand shape how we see our place in the world and how we can shape it for future generations. Working with a group, you will adopt a topic related to SUSTAINABILITY in the first week of class and, through a series of assignments, you will explore that topic in preparation for a final, mixed-media, ADOBE--CREATED research project in the form of a website or a digital short that explores, highlights, discusses and presents that topic from different lenses.**

**You will need to download [ADOBE SOFTWARE](#) for free with an SJSU account.**

**You will be working all semester toward your final research project, a MULTI-MODAL compilation of text and writing using some form of ADOBE software to design and implement this project. You will focus on how the world around us uses language, images, and memes to make an argument. In our digital world, mastering skills both in writing and speaking as well as adding mastery of digital resources in order to engage in the argument around you will be an important task for graduating from SJSU.**

**SOME GREAT QUESTIONS TO KEEP TRYING TO ANSWER throughout the semester: Where does my own way of thinking about any topic come from? How can I better articulate my opinion and engage in the discussions going on around me? Can I respectfully and wholeheartedly disagree and still listen to another position? What is at stake? How can I use the tools of a digital economy to serve me after graduating from college? And lastly, how can I play a role in the issues of sustainability that are plaguing all of us today?**

**We will use Canvas to share files and information as well as to submit work. Please plan on checking Canvas regularly in order to keep up with the class. Please note: you will have**

a variety of assignments ONLINE and will submit everything through CANVAS. If you need help, see me!

### Required Texts/Readings

Various essays, videos and additional material can be found in Canvas. Please make sure you familiarize yourself with the learning platform. If you get stuck, come see me!

[Finding Our Humanity](#) by Leif Cocks

[Video Series](#) can be viewed as well.

[Seeds of Hope](#) by Jane Goodall

[Video](#) can be viewed as well.

Plus various online linked articles with each module

### Course Objectives

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

- locate and evaluate sources, through library research, and integrate research through appropriate citation and quotation;
- 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;
- locate, interpret, evaluate, and synthesize evidence in a comprehensive way in support of your ideas;
- identify and critically evaluate the assumptions in and the context of an argument;
- 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).
- Use Adobe Spark and Premiere Rush with confidence!
- Work effectively in a group

ENGL 2 is open to all students needing to fulfill GE Area A3. It is required for business majors. Students who have successfully completed ENGL 1B or who are majoring in Biochemistry, Marine Biology, Geology or Engineering programs (excluding Aviation and Technology) may not enroll in ENGL 2. To determine your eligibility, please refer to [What to Take After English 1A](#) and the major exceptions chart.

**Prerequisites:** ENGL 1A, 1A-F/S (with a grade of C- or better). Satisfies GE Area A3: Critical Thinking and Writing

## Eng 2 Course Content

**Diversity:** SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading and writing assignments to construct your own arguments on complex issues (such as diversity and ethnicity, class and social equality) that generate meaningful public debate. Readings for the course will include writers of different genders and from different socio-economic classes.

**Writing:** You will write a series of essays informed by research and articulating fully developed arguments about complex issues. Writing assignments will give you repeated practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. Assignments include in-class writing as well as revised out-of-class essays.

**PLEASE NOTE:** this course focuses on DIGITAL READINESS as well.

**Reading:** *Readings should not only engage the themes of your course so that they become part of the writing process, but readings should also include useful models of writing for academic, general, and specific audiences. The majority of the reading should be devoted to analytical, critical, and argumentative texts. Your goal in teaching the reading process is to help students develop and refine strategies for understanding the logical structure of argumentative writing.*

**Critical Thinking:** In addition to focusing on how to write arguments, the course also teaches you how to analyze and evaluate texts critically. More specifically, you will practice evaluating arguments for purpose, audience, rhetorical strategies, conclusions; evaluating ideas by contextualizing your assumptions and values (historical, cultural, socio-economic, political); and evaluating your own understanding of ideas by identifying your own interpretive lens.

**Research:** ENGL 2 will include a library orientation conducted by a trained librarian to introduce the library and basic research strategies that you will need to complete upper-division coursework, including locating materials, using them effectively (e.g., quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing), and citing them properly.

**Oral Communication:** You will be responsible for creating a group presentation using Google Docs that will expect you to teach the class about your interpretation of a chosen poet by a contemporary poet. You will, essentially, teach the class as you demonstrate your knowledge of the implications and nuances of poetry. Your topic will be the topic you have chosen in relation to sustainability. You will support your ideas with multi-media sources as you work together to uncover your own interpretation of your chosen poem. You will create an Adobe Spark page for presenting your findings. You will be graded by evaluative comments, addressing issues of both content and presentation, will substantively remark on the logic of the argument as well as the presentation's delivery.

**Additionally, if you do NOT UNDERSTAND the comments I make on your assignments, please schedule an appointment to discuss your ideas with me. Let's talk about them!**

### **WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:**

**I will be prepared for class, and I will be respectful of you and your opinions. I will put in the time and effort required to run a successful classroom as a leader, but the effort and the work from you is also required for the class to run. This class is based on a community of learners, which means we will depend upon each other to support and inform one another. When discussing content with the class, be careful to maintain a professional demeanor and to present reasoned and balanced arguments that are supported by evidence from either the readings, from lecture, or from your personal experience. Since everyone is different, everyone will have different perceptions of what is civil and uncivil behavior, so if you are offended by something that either another student does or says, please let me know. In the same way, please let me know if you are offended by something I say or do. It is my intention to ensure this classroom is a safe place for all to voice their opinions and present cases. Please help me to do that!**

**LET'S HAVE A BLAST!!! Make learning a way of life!**

### **Library Liaison**

**ENGL 02 requires students to conduct library research. | Silke Higgins presents our InfoPower Sessions and is also available for consultation. | Phone: 408-808-2118 | Email: silke.higgins@sjsu.edu. | Silke will be the one conducting our Infopower sessions.**

### **CLASSROOM PROTOCOL (what you need to know to succeed)**

**ESSAY FORMAT: We will submit everything through Canvas. Please make sure you follow MLA format.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Do not email any of your assignments to me. Everything should be submitted in Canvas.**

**RESEARCH PROJECT: English 2 shall include an introduction to the library and to basic research strategies, including locating materials, using them effectively and citing them properly. You will be working toward answering the question: HOW WILL I SAVE THE PLANET? Your final research project will have a number of components, all of which will count toward the final grade, and will be discussed in class.**

**ATTENDANCE: please plan on meeting at the times we agree on. If your class is synchronous, you need to be on Zoom at the assigned time. This consists both of being in class on time, remaining for the entire class period, and being prepared with that day's reading and writing in order to participate fully in class discussions, collaborative**

workshops, and in-class activities. If this is asynchronous, please make sure you keep up with the class regardless. Honoring deadlines is an essential skill for lifetime success, so please make sure you turn things in on time. In short, please be aware of deadlines, and **BE PREPARED** for whatever happens.

Please make sure your name is listed on **EVERYTHING** you turn in to me.

Additionally, **DO NOT MAKE YOUR ABSENCE MY PROBLEM**. If you are absent, you are still responsible for keeping up with the class. Please contact a friend in class to find out what you missed.

### FINAL EXAM: Assessment:

All students completing ENGL 2 will submit a self-reflection essay and portfolio as a final assessment exercise for the course. Your portfolio allows you to show writing program faculty the progress you have made, as a reader and writer, to accomplish specific course learning objectives.

**GRADING SCALE: you must pass with a C- or better for credit!**

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>960 to 1000</i>	<i>96 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>930 to 959</i>	<i>93 to 95%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>900 to 929</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>860 to 899</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>830 to 859</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>800 to 829</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>760 to 799</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>730 to 759</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>700 to 729</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>660 to 699</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>630 to 659</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>600 to 629</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

### University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

# Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Thu Jan 28, 2021	<p>Calendar Event</p> <p><a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Aug 20/12 and 1:30</a></p>	11am to 3pm
Tue Feb 2, 2021	<p>Calendar Event</p> <p><a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30</a></p>	12pm to 3pm
	<p>Assignment</p> <p><a href="#">M1: Essay # 1: Diagnostic Essay: Go, Greta! or Oh, No, Greta!</a></p>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Feb 9, 2021	<p>Calendar Event</p> <p><a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30</a></p>	12pm to 3pm
	<p>Assignment</p> <p><a href="#">FILM ASSIGNMENT: SOLO</a></p>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Feb 16, 2021	<p>Calendar Event</p>	12pm to 3pm

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[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

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Calendar Event

Thu Feb 18, 2021      [Teaching a Research Project with Adobe Spark](#)      10:30am to 11:45am

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Calendar Event

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)      12pm to 3pm

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Calendar Event

Tue Feb 23, 2021      [FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)      12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

[M2: Trump Tweet Essay: FINAL REVISED VERSIONS of Essay #2](#)      due by 11:59pm

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Assignment

[M2: Writing about Trump's Tweet: ROUGH DRAFT OF ESSAY #2: Group Essay but SOLO SUBMISSION for draft](#)      due by 11:59pm

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Tue Mar 2, 2021      Calendar Event      12pm to 3pm

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[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

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Calendar Event

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Tue Mar 9, 2021

Assignment

[M3: Essay #3/Group Poetry Presentations. Remember: no dead poets, no songs: submit link to Adobe Spark pres here--\(your individual responses go elsewhere!\)](#)

due by 11:59pm

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Calendar Event

Tue Mar 16, 2021

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Calendar Event

Tue Mar 23, 2021

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

[Annotated Poem Posts here](#)

due by 11:59pm

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Assignment

Thu Mar 25, 2021

[M4: Proposal \(a developed plan with argument and types of media you will use\) and 5-Source Annotated Bib with at least 2 paragraphs of info. \(MUST BE 12 paragraphs TOTAL\)](#)

due by 11:59pm

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Calendar Event

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Calendar Event

Tue Mar 30, 2021

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

[M5: ICE #2\(essay #5\) /Revision of Diagnostic Essay/SUBMIT HERE](#)

due by 11:59pm

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Calendar Event

Tue Apr 6, 2021

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

Fri Apr 9, 2021

[Extra Credit Option 3: LitArt.org | 25 points possible](#)

due by 11:59pm

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	Assignment	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Extra Credit Options 1 &amp; 2</a>	
	Calendar Event	
Tue Apr 13, 2021	<a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30</a>	12pm to 3pm
	Assignment	
Wed Apr 14, 2021	<a href="#">M6: ESSAY 6  DRAFT OF research project/samples and file included here: must be a REALIZED DRAFT!: submit draft/Google Doc with Outline here for credit</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Calendar Event	
Tue Apr 20, 2021	<a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30</a>	12pm to 3pm
	Assignment	
Thu Apr 22, 2021	<a href="#">Essay #7/Research PROJECT   FINAL DRAFT</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Calendar Event	
Tue Apr 27, 2021	<a href="#">FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30</a>	12pm to 3pm

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Calendar Event

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

[Final Exam Essay/Writing the Self-Reflection Essay/post here and in the WRITING ASSESSMENT COURSE SHELL as part of your portfolio](#)

due by 11:59pm

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Assignment

Fri Apr 30, 2021

[Creating a Portfolio for your final assessment: UPLOAD IN TWO PLACES: this class, and the Writing Assessment SHELL](#)

due by 12:05pm

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Calendar Event

Tue May 4, 2021

[FA20: ENGL-2 Sec 08 - Critical Thinking and Writing/Tuesdays Every Week 12 and 1:30](#)

12pm to 3pm

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Assignment

[M3: Individual Poetry Responses: submit those here! \(failure to turn in equals minus 10%\)](#)

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Assignment

[Please introduce yourself!](#)

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