

Course Syllabus

English 1B, Argument and Analysis | 650-269-1288 (my cell)

Please limit text to 7:30 and 5 Monday-Friday.

Fall 2022 Sections 17 & 18 entirely asynchronous

Sustainability, Accidental Advocates, and You!

LEARN HOW to advocate for the health of our planet.

Instructor(s): Sherri Harvey

Office Location: and Zoom @ office hours link to the left
Zoom link

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:15

Please text me ten minutes before to let me know you plan
to join: 650-269-1288

Telephone: 650-269-1288

Email: sherri.harvey@sjsu.edu

Class Days/Time:

- Section 17
- Section 18
- Both are fully Online - Asynchronous

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, MEMES, poems, and essays) 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 can access ADOBE SPARK for free online, but you also have the option to download Adobe software for free with an SJSU account. If you would like to use Adobe Premier Rush to create a movie or your research project, you will need to download it. Adobe Spark lives online.

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 throughout the course. You will also be engaging in a fair amount of group work, and you will need to figure out how and when to meet with your groupmates all semester. You will be working on assignments with your groupmates for the entire semester, so please plan accordingly. There is no way to pass this class unless you are working with your group.

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!

[All We Can Save](#) Essays for the Climate Crisis

[Seeds of Hope](#) by Jane Goodall

[Video](#) of Goodall's book can be viewed as well.

[Adobe CC Software](#) can be downloaded for free

Plus various online linked articles with each module

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Recommended:

[Google, Democracy and the Truth About the Internet Search](#) by Carole Cadwalladr

[Does Texting Affect Writing](#) by Michaela Cullington p. 462

[How I Learned to Love Snapchat](#) by Jenna Wortham p. 474

[Go Ahead: Waste Time on the Internet](#) by Kenneth Goldsmith p. 500

[Does a Protest's Size Matter](#) by Zeynep Tufekci

[Finding Our Humanity](#) by Leif Cocks

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

Course Objectives

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

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 1. recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns.
 2. respond to such works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses.
 3. write clearly and effectively.
 4. work effectively in a group.
 5. increase your digital scholarship skills.

ENGL 1B is open to (1) students majoring in Biochemistry, Marine Biology, Geology and Engineering (Aerospace, Biomedical, Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, General, Industrial and Systems, Materials, Mechanical, Software); and (2) transfer students who have completed GE Area A3 (Critical Thinking) requirement and still need to take a second semester of English composition for GE Area C2. For further guidance, refer to [What to Take After English 1A](#)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

ENGL 1B is not open to students who successfully completed ENGL 2. Based on AP, CLEP, and IB scores, students may be exempt from taking ENGL 1B. Please consult the [Credit by Exam chart](#)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

to see if you are eligible for exemption.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1A or 1A-F/S (with a grade of C- or better)

Satisfies GE Area C2: Letters

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 about the complexities of sustainability that generate meaningful public debate.

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: will 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, and conclusions; evaluating ideas by contextualizing your

assumptions and values, and evaluating your own understanding of ideas by identifying your own interpretive lens.

Research: ENGL 1B will include a library orientation 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 language and rhetorical strategies. 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, and 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!

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? Ideas for sustainability.. 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.

Please make sure your name is listed on EVERYTHING you turn in to me. I do not accept late work. If you are having trouble keeping up, email me ahead of time to work something out.

FINAL EXAM: Assessment:

All students completing ENGL 1B 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>

C plus 760 to 799 76 to 79%

C 730 to 759 73 to 75%

C minus 700 to 729 70 to 72%

D plus 660 to 699 66 to 69%

D 630 to 659 63 to 65%

D minus 600 to 629 60 to 62%

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.