

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

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

**Spring 2022 Sections 1 (7:30 am), 10 (9 am), &18 (1:30 pm)**

**Welcome to Critical Thinking and Writing:**

**Sustainability, Accidental Advocates, and You!**

**LEARN HOW to advocate for the health of our planet.**

**YES--please turn your cameras on as you enter the Zoom room--looking at blank screens is no fun!**

Instructor(s): Sherri Harvey

Office Location: Zoom @ Invite Link  
and Zoom room  
for any class!

Join URL: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/86345579526>

Telephone: 650-269-1288

Email: [sherri.harvey@sjsu.edu](mailto:sherri.harvey@sjsu.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-11:30

Use the class link above

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

Class Days/Time:

- **Section 1: 7:30 am**
- **Section 10: 9-10:15 am**
- **Section 18: 1:30-2:45**

A note on Tues/Thurs class: We will work on content and lectures on Tuesdays. Thursdays we will work on writing assignments or in groups online during class time.

### **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, poems, and memes 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, memes, 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 Premiere 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 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, check with your advisor.

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?** 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.

**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.