

First Year Writing Section 54

ENGL 1A

Spring 2023 Section 54 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 02/04/2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Jillian Murphy

Email: jillian.murphy@sjsu.edu

Office: tbd

For the fastest response, message me on Canvas.

Office Hours

Monday, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, Instructor's office (tbd)

Tuesday, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Zoom

Course Description and Requisites

English 1A is an introductory course that prepares students to join scholarly conversations across the university. Students develop reading skills, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas for various audiences, using a variety of genres. GE Area: A2

Prerequisite: Completion of Reflection on College Writing

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

ENGL 1A Course Content

Diversity: SJSU is a diverse campus. As such, our course is designed to include an emphasis on a diverse range of voices and viewpoints. We will engage in integrated reading and writing assignments to construct our own arguments on complex issues that generate meaningful public discussions.

Writing: Writing is at the heart of our class. Our exploration of writing will allow us to prepare ourselves and each other for academic and real-world writing scenarios. Assignments give students repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Our class requires a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. More specific descriptions and instructions will be distributed for all major assignments in class.

Reading: There will be a substantial amount of reading for our class, some of which will come from texts I select (listed below) and some of which will be from sources you locate.

Final Experience: We will compile a portfolio at the end of the semester that includes selected examples of your writing produced for our class, as well as materials from your RCW Canvas course. We will talk more about the portfolio later in the semester.

Time Commitment

Success in ENGL 1A is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the

length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Final Examination or Evaluation

In ENGL 1A, our learning culminates in a digital Reflection and Portfolio Assignment. In this assignment, we will gather samples of our writing that demonstrate our learning; we will write a reflection essay that explains what we have learned, how we learned it, and how we will use it in future learning; and we will submit our portfolio for consideration to other people in the first-year writing program. This is our chance to identify and articulate what we've learned and what we'll take forward with us into future learning/writing experiences.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You're responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see Canvas Student Resources page.

Program Policies

First-Year Writing policies are listed at the following website: <https://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program-policies.php>
(<https://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program-policies.php>)

Our Class Policies

Late Work

In-Class Work: Students must be present in class to participate in and earn credit for group work. If you cannot attend class, make sure to complete coursework in full to earn late credit and contact a classmate to catch up on lecture notes. Students not present in class will start at 90% of the full points for an assignment. Visit me in office hours if you need an exception.

If an illness or emergency will keep you from class for more than one period, message me on Canvas.

Homework: Submit work by the due date listed. Unexcused late work will be graded down a letter grade for every day it is late. If you need an extension, contact me before the assignment is due.

Note: The Final Portfolio Final Draft cannot be turned in late.

Partial credit: There is no deadline to turn in assignments for 50% credit. You may complete and turn in in-class or homework assignments for partial credit up until our final class meeting on Monday, May 15.

Extra Credit

There will be an opportunity for 10 points of extra credit mid-semester. We will discuss this in class.

Final Exam

Date and Time: Tuesday, May 23, 7:15-9:30 AM

Our Final Experience will be the Final Portfolio. We will not meet in-person during this final exam period. We will discuss this assignment in class.

COURSE WORK

Coursework will be completed digitally through Canvas. You will need to have a phone, laptop or tablet with internet access in order to submit work in-class and for homework. If this is a concern, email me and we will figure out a solution.

Reading assignments may be added or removed (with notice) based on our needs as a group.

Assigned Reading Materials

There is no course textbook.

All assigned reading materials will be available on Canvas, either in .pdf or as a link.

- Availability: Canvas

Student Sources

Students will be responsible for locating appropriate sources and materials for their writing assignments.

- Availability: University Library, Online Databases

Program Information

Welcome to this General Education course.

SJSU's General Education Program establishes a strong foundation of versatile skills, fosters curiosity about the world, promotes ethical judgment, and prepares students to engage and contribute responsibly and cooperatively in a multicultural, information-rich society. General education classes integrate areas of study and encourage progressively more complex and creative analysis, expression, and problem solving.

The General Education Program has three goals:

Goal 1: To develop students' core competencies for academic, personal, creative, and professional pursuits.

Goal 2: To enact the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice by ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to serve and contribute to the well-being of local and global communities and the environment.

Goal 3: To offer students integrated, multidisciplinary, and innovative study in which they pose challenging questions, address complex issues, and develop cooperative and creative responses.

More information about the General Education Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) can be found on the [GE website](https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php) (<https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php>).

Course Goals

Course Theme: Ethos

Our English 1A class will be guided by the idea of "ethos," a Greek word that means "character." In Rhetoric, ethos is one of Aristotle's three Rhetorical Appeals, or strategies that writers and speakers use to persuade their audiences. It represents the moral character of the speaker and their authority to speak on the subject, as judged by the audience members. In this spirit, we will deeply consider the following questions as we read, write, and discuss:

- Who has the authority to speak on a given subject?
- Who or what gives them that authority?

As we explore these questions in the texts we read, watch, and listen to, we will also consider how to most effectively employ ethos in our own work.

- What does it mean to be an authority? In what areas are we authorities?
- How can we demonstrate that authority—and gain the trust of readers—in our own writing?

And, most importantly,

- How can our understanding of ethos make us more insightful and persuasive rhetoricians?

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

GE Area A2: Written Communication

Written Communication I courses cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with special attention to the nature of writing at the university. A grade of C- or better designates that a student has

successfully oriented reading and writing practice in English to support college level research and learning and to share learning with C- or better is a CSU graduation requirement.

GE Area A2 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area A2 course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, context, effectiveness, and forms of written communication;
2. perform essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing);
3. articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals;
4. integrate their ideas and those of others by synthesizing, explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres; and
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical abilities in writing.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

Course Materials

Coursework will be completed digitally through Canvas. You will need to have a phone, laptop or tablet with internet access in order to submit work in-class and for homework. If this is a concern, email me and we will figure out a solution.

Reading assignments may be added or removed (with notice) based on our needs as a group.

Assigned Reading Materials

There is no course textbook.

All assigned reading materials will be available on Canvas, either in .pdf or as a link.

- Availability: Canvas

Student Sources

Students will be responsible for locating appropriate sources and materials for their writing assignments.

- Availability: University Library, Online Databases

Course Requirements and Assignments

Argumentative Essay: What I Know

Assigned: Monday, February 6

Rough Draft due, Peer Review Workshop: Wednesday, February 15

Final Draft due: Wednesday, February 22

Multimodal Project: What I've Learned

Assigned: Wednesday, March 22

Script Draft due, Peer Review Workshop: Wednesday, April 5

Final Draft due: Wednesday, April 19

Research Essay: What I Want to Know

Assigned: Wednesday, February 22

Proposal due: Wednesday, March 8

Annotated Bibliography due: Wednesday, March 15

Rough Draft 1 due, Peer Review Workshop: Wednesday, March 22

Rough Draft 2 due, Peer Review Workshop: Wednesday, April 26

Final Draft due: Wednesday, May 10

Final: Portfolio

Assigned: Wednesday, May 10

Rough Draft due, Peer Review Workshop: Monday, May 15

Final Draft due: Tuesday, May 23 at 9:30am

Homework and Classwork

Students will have regular reading and writing homework to prepare before each class. We will also complete writing, analysis, and group work in class. All assignments will be turned in on Canvas.

✓ Grading Information

Breakdown

Grade	Range
A	93% to 100%
A-	90% to 92%
B+	87% to 89%
B	83% to 86%
B-	80% to 82%
C+	77% to 79%
C	73% to 76%
C-	70% to 72%
D+	67% to 69%
D	63% to 66%
D-	60% to 62%

F	0% to 59%
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Criteria

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes
Argumentative Essay: What I Know	15%	1000 words (Draft: 500)	Rough Draft and Peer Review: 2.5% Revised Final Draft: 12.5% CLO: 1-5
Multimodal Project: What I've Learned	20%	1000 words (Draft: 500)	Rough draft and Peer Review: 2.5% Revised Final Draft: 17.5% CLO: 1-5
Research Essay: What I Want to Know	35%	1500 words (Draft: 750)	Proposal: 2.5% Annotated Bibliography: 2.5% Rough draft and Peer Reviews (2): 5% Revised Final Draft: 25% CLO: 1-5
Final: Portfolio	10%	500+ words (Draft: 500)	Rough Draft and Peer Review: 2.5% Revised Final Draft: 7.5% CLO: 1-3, 5
Homework and Classwork	20%	2000+ words	CLO 1-5

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) (<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 Schedule

The focus of our class is your improvement, so I reserve the right to change the schedule with fair notice in order to best fit the needs of the class.

You will find the readings on Canvas in the module for that week.