San José State University
English 1A
Composition I, Sections 17 & 28, Fall 2012

Instructor: Ed Sams
Office Location: FO-212
Telephone: (408) 924-4485
Email: Edwin.Sams@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: T-TH noon—1:30 p.m., TH 4-4:30 p.m.
Class Days/Time: Section 17: 9 a.m.—10:15 a.m.
Section 28: 10:30—11:45 p.m.
Classroom: Section 17: SH 444
Section 28: SH 444

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor).

Course Description

English 1A is the first course in SJSU's two-semester lower division composition sequence; it provides an introduction to baccalaureate-level composition with attention to personal voice and personal experience, on the one hand, and the more formal attitudes and demands of writing at the university (expository and argumentative essays), on the other. Students will develop college-level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings. Passage of the English Proficiency Test (EPT) or passage of an approved substitute course for the EPT is prerequisite.

Course Goals

Students will achieve the ability to write complete essays that demonstrate college-level proficiency in all of the following:
Clear and effective communication of meaning
An identifiable thesis tailored to a particular audience and purpose
Prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing
The ability to explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively
Effective use of supporting material drawn from reading or other sources
Effective organization within the paragraph and the essay
Accuracy, variety, and clarity of sentences
Appropriate diction
Control of conventional mechanics (punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement)
(The above objectives will all be realized through the writing process developed in the course content.)

Course Learning Objectives:
Learning Objective 1: Students will write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to perform effectively the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing.)
Learning Objective 2: Students will write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively.
Learning Objective 3: Students will write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to use correct grammar (syntax, mechanics, and citation of sources) at a college level of sophistication.
Learning Objective 4: Students will write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to write for different audiences.

Required Texts/Readings
Bedford Handbook (8th.ed), Patterns of College Writing (12th), collegiate dictionary, three blue books (for in-class essays), one yellow book

Classroom Protocol
Students are expected to be in class on time with their books and homework ready to answer questions on the assigned reading. Please no text-messaging, phoning, or any non-class related use of computers. There is no provision for late work. Should you be absent from class, contact me immediately by phone or email.

Dropping and Adding: Drop Deadline is Sep 4. Add deadline is Sep 11.

Assignments and Grading Policy
Eight 1000-word essays are required in English 1A for a minimum of 8,000 words. Writing assignments will give repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing.
English 1A is a reading-intensive course. You will have reading assignments to complete for almost every class period, and readings will be accompanied by some form of writing. It is therefore imperative that you complete the readings prior to each class and come with your book prepared to discuss them in class.

In the English Department courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of the ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs.

This is an A, B, C, D, F course. You must earn at least a C in order to pass. Any student with a final grade below a C must repeat the course.

**Grading Scale**

- A=excellent (correct, persuasive, informative prose) A+=100, A=95, A-=90
- B=good (clear, well-developed, well-organized writing) B+=89, B=85, B-=80
- C=satisfactory (clear thesis, coherent sentences, complete essay) C+=79, C=75, C-=70
- D=unsatisfactory (unclear, incorrect, incomplete effort) D+= 69, D=65, D-=60
- F=failure (off-topic, plagiaristic, late) F=50

**Final Average**

- 4 in-class essays=30%, 4 out-of-class essays=30%, 1 final exam=20%, 10 quizzes=10%, Participation=10%.

**University Policies**

**Plagiarism:** Presenting the ideas or writings of another as one’s own is plagiarism. Evidence of plagiarism will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. For this and every course at SJSU, be familiar with the Policy on Academic Integrity printed in the SJSU Catalog ([http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf)).

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs
may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.
A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Writing Center
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center
The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/.
English 1A, Sections 17 & 28, Fall 2012, Course Schedule

Note: The instructor reserves the right to revise the requirements and to notify students of such revision in a timely manner (at least one class meeting in advance). Readings indicated with asterisks are not non-fiction prose.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 23</td>
<td>Intro, diagnostic essay LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>Bed 19, LO 2, Patterns 2, 3; Quiz</td>
<td>LO 1, 3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 3</td>
<td>Pat 4, 6, LO 1, 3</td>
<td>Pat 6 (311*); Bed 20, LO 2, 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 10</td>
<td>Quiz, Bed 21; Pat 7 (190), LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Quiz, Pat 8 (258); Bed 27, LO 1, 3</td>
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<td>Sep 17</td>
<td>journal due LO 2, 3</td>
<td>Quiz; Pat 9 (281); Bed 29, LO 1, 3</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sep 24</td>
<td>Quiz; Pat 10; Bed 26, LO 1, 3</td>
<td>in-class narrative essay LO 2, 3, 4</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>Quiz; Pat 10 (339, 361, 466), LO 2, 3</td>
<td>Pat 11; Bed 32, outline due LO 1, 2, 3</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>Quiz; Pat 11 (393, 404, 410), LO 1, 2, 3</td>
<td>causal analysis due LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Pat 12 (460), outline due LO 1, 2, 3</td>
<td>Pat 13 (507, 516), Bed 32, LO 2, 3</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Dictionary, in-class comparison essay LO 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Quiz, Pat 14, LO 1, 2, 3</td>
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<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Pat 14 outline due LO 1, 2</td>
<td>Pat 14 (553, 566), LO 1, 2</td>
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<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>definition essay due LO 2, 3, 4,</td>
<td>Pat 15; outline due LO 1, 2</td>
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<td>Nov 12</td>
<td>Pat 15 (685), LO 1, 2</td>
<td>argumentative essay due LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>Bed 36 in-class rewrite LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>Quiz, Bed 45, LO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Quiz, Final Exam Prep, LO 1, 2, 3</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Practice Final Exam LO 3</td>
<td>Final Exam Prep, LO 3</td>
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<td>Dec. 8</td>
<td>Final exam on Saturday at 8 a.m. (location to be announced)</td>
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