

AJ 100W
Writing Workshop
Spring, 2003

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Office Hours:
Mon./Wed. 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:30-8:15
Wed only 5:00-5:30

Course Description: This is an integrated writing and research course designed to develop advanced communication skills, which will be valuable in a career in the justice field. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be skilled at communicating information in a variety of formats to criminal justice professionals and to general audiences. Effective written and oral communication skills are vital to success in any career, but are particularly important in criminal justice. The best method for improving these skills is through extensive practice, critical feedback, revision, and examination of models of excellence in communication.

The students of AJ 100W will develop:

- a clear, concise, and effective writing style, exhibiting the mastery of the mechanics of writing
- advanced proficiencies in research strategies and methodologies necessary to communicate complex ideas effectively and appropriately to both general and specific audiences
- the ability to read, interpret, and critically analyze scholarly literature within the field, and to respond critically both orally and in writing
- the ability to gather diverse supporting evidence from a variety of sources and appropriately cite these sources
- the ability effectively and cogently to express a position, using organized, clear and concise wording in a variety of formats to target different audiences

Prerequisites: English 1A and 1B or equivalent, and passing score on the Writing Skills Test.

Text: Johnson, W. A., Rettig, R. P., Scott, G. & Garrison, S. (2001). The criminal justice student writer's manual (2nd ed.). *Required*
Harris, M. (2000). Writer's FAQ's pocket handbook. *Required*
Schmallegger, F (2002). The definitive guide to criminal justice on the world wide web. *Recommended*
Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary (10th edition or newer). *Recommended*

Course Requirements: To satisfy the University's Written Communication II requirement, students will be required to write a minimum of 8000 words with an overall grade of "C" or better. Students will also make at least two oral presentations, and will evaluate classmates' writing on a variety of assignments. Assignments in AJ100W will include: expository responses to problem statements, a review of scholarly literature, an argumentative research paper, interviews of professionals in the criminal justice field, a brief of and response to a Supreme Court decision, an oral presentation in the form of a debate, various correspondence, a professional resume, and a final examination. All of these assignments are designed to provide practice in critical reading, thinking, and writing strategies necessary to plan and execute purposeful writing. Purposeful writing includes analyzing research, generating ideas, developing a thesis, organizing and writing a first draft, revising for form and content, editing for grammar, punctuation, spelling and usage, and evaluating, using, and documenting supporting materials. There will also be vocabulary and grammar quizzes.

Important: If you need course adaptation or accommodations because of a disability, or if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please see me during office hours.

Course Grade: All writing workshops are graded ABC/NC. Performance that merits a grade lower than a "C" will receive a "No Credit" for 100W. *Please note that University and Departmental guidelines require a serious and compelling reason to drop a course. A course cannot be dropped because of grades alone.*

The semester grade in 100W will be based on a weighted average method. Not all assignments will be weighted. Grades are determined based upon the following criteria:

- A: Excellent presentation, with well-reasoned analysis, comparing and contrasting ideas.
- B: Good presentation, with somewhat less consistency.
- C: Adequate, but needs improvement.
- N/C: Incomplete work or serious and persistent errors in word choice, mechanics, usage and sentence structure.

Papers will be evaluated in three areas: format, content and mechanics. Students will be given specific criteria for each assignment and will be expected to follow guidelines provided. All assignments completed outside of class must adhere to the following guidelines unless otherwise specified: typed, double-spaced, single sided, white paper, 1 inch margins, 12 pt. standard font (i.e.: Times, New York, Palatine, Geneva).

Always keep a copy of any out of class writing that is turned in.

Late paper policy: Points will be deducted if a paper is up to a week late. After one week, late papers will not be accepted, without prior approval from instructor.

Plagiarism: Adhere to the SJSU code prohibiting plagiarism. Any plagiarized work will receive no credit and may not be resubmitted. Plagiarism may also result in disciplinary action by the Department or the University. SJSU plagiarism policy located at: www1.cob.sjsu.edu/7_dean_office/f88_10.html.

Attendance and Participation: Critical reading, thinking, and writing involve a number of practical skills. These skills must be diligently practiced to be developed and they must be diligently exercised to be maintained. Students are expected to keep up with class readings, to attend all class meetings and to be prepared to contribute to the classroom exchange of ideas and information throughout the semester. Attendance is mandatory.

In class writing assignments: Be prepared to write in each class. In class assignments will include expository responses to problem statements, abstracts, letters, case summaries, quizzes, drafts of cover letter and resume, critiques, and the final examination.

Out of class assignments: Out of class assignments will include interviews, literature review, brief of and response to Supreme Court decisions, presentation of opinion in debate format, research paper critique, and the research paper itself.

Vocabulary Development: Students will be expected to master 150-175 new vocabulary words this semester. Mastery will be evidenced through vocabulary quizzes and correct usage of vocabulary words in writing and speech.


Research Paper: Students will write an 8 - 10 page research paper, which will be argumentative in nature. The paper will be based on the agency case study material included in CJSWM. Research for this paper will include a literature review and personal interviews. The research process itself will incorporate several additional writing assignments, which will be graded separately.

Final Exam will be Saturday, May 10, 2003, 10:00 AM -1:00 PM.
Make up exam will be Monday, May 12, 2003, 2 – 5:00 PM.

AJ 100W Semester Schedule Spring 2003
Wednesday nights

Date	Tentative Class Schedule	Due in class	Homework Assignment
Week 1			
1/22	Introductions Research Paper Particulars Vocabulary List Handout and Details Diagnostic I: Article Critique		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJSWM Ch.1 & Ch. 6 pp. 114-120 • Vocab. List 1 & 2 • Begin thinking a topic for your term project
Week 2			
1/29	Electronic Media Review – Clark Library 511 (Dr. Susana Liu 924-2805) Return and discuss Article Critiques. Paragraph summaries/outlining Summarizing Techniques	CJSWM Ch. 1 Ch. 6 pp. 114-120 Ch. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4, pp. 83 – 99 • Find interviewees and agency (due 2/5) • Library search: Find 10 scholarly articles related to your topic (due 2/5)
Week 3			
2/5	Vocabulary Lists 1 & 2 Using APA style, referencing, Research and interview process for semester project. Discuss potential topics Getting the idea – thesis development (handout) Outlining (sample outline)	Vocabulary Lists 1 & 2 Name title and agency of Interviewees Chapter 4, pp. 83 – 99 List of 10 articles in APA reference style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary List 3 • Conduct preliminary interviews as per Ch. 8 • Type up tentative outline • CJSWM Chapter 2 & pp. 147-152; • Article Critique II (due 2/12)
Week 4			
2/12	Vocabulary List 3 Oral Presentation of Topic: interviewees and the objective of your research paper Discuss Annotated Literature Review Diagnostic II (using Article from article critique II)	Vocab List 3 CJSWM Ch. 2 & pp. 147 – 152 Summary of initial interview, with topic choice and agency, specific objective of paper, outline Article Critique II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJSWM Ch. 2 • Annotated Literature Review (due 2/26) • Put together a formal outline for your paper (due 3/5) • Follow-up interview (due 3/5) • Vocabulary Quiz, Lists 1-3 • CJSWM Ch.5 • Find online & read SJSU policy on plagiarism, & bring to next class
Week 5			
2/19	Vocabulary Quiz, Lists 1-3 Finish Oral presentation of Topics Summarizing scholarly work, paraphrasing; In class: summarize & paraphrase plagiarism policy	CJSWM Ch.5 SJSU policy on plagiarism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary List 4
Week 6			
2/26	Catch up day – where are you with regard to research topic, follow-up interview, etc. Vocabulary List 4 Resumes and Letters of Application – Marketing Yourself Effectively	CJSWM Ch. 5 Annotated Literature Review Due Vocabulary List 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article Critique III (due 3/12) • Bring information for Resume

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Date	Tentative Class Schedule	Due in class	Homework Assignment
Week 7			
3/5	Resume writing workshop Resume exchange Critique and evaluation of resumes	Interview write up Formal outline of research paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary List 5 • Type resume • Refine resume & cover letter
Week 8			
3/12	Vocabulary List 5 Feedback on plagiarism summaries Debate exercise explained and teams assigned.	Vocabulary List 5 Article Critique III Revised resume & cover letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise thank you for interview letter • Vocabulary List 6 • Finish research paper (due 3/19)
Week 9			
3/19	Vocabulary List 6 Research paper critique in class – evaluating for impact! Debate teams meet	Research paper Thank you letter (final draft) Vocabulary List 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find & read assigned court case • Vocabulary List 7
Week 10			
3/24-3/28	Spring Break: Have a safe holiday!		
Week 11			
4/2	Vocabulary List 7 Briefing a court case – Identifying and listing the salient issues Debate teams meet	Vocabulary List 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief assigned court case #1 using U.S. Constitution to identify salient features of case (due 4/16)
Week 12			
4/9	NO CLASS – INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCES TO GO OVER PAPERS		
Week 13			
4/16	Vocab Quiz 2 Discuss and critique court brief 1 Debate preparation	Bring in 3 copies of your court brief #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain and read court case #2 • Prepare for debate
Week 14			
4/23	Diagnostic III Debate Teams meet		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for debate
Week 15			
4/30	Debate: Teams I and Team II	Last day to turn in revised research paper	
Week 16			
5/7	Last Class: Discuss Court Brief; Semester Review, preparation for the final Post test; class evaluation, return papers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared for the final – read and critique the article • Get a good night's sleep – and be prepared to think and write!!
5/10	Diagnostic IV (Final Exam)		HAVE A FUN SUMMER & CONGRATS GRADS