

San Jose State University  
Department of English and Comparative Literature  
Welcome to English 1A  
Fall 2012

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes,  
but having new eyes." Proust

Instructor: Jeffrey Hallford  
Section 32: MW 12:00-1:15 Sweeny Hall, 240  
Section 42: MW 1:30-2:45 Sweeny Hall, 315  
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#### Course Description:

English 1A is the first course in SJSU's two-semester lower-division composition sequence. The course fulfills G.E. Area A2 and provides an introduction to baccalaureate-level composition, with attention to the personal voice and personal experience, as well as, the more formal attitudes and demands of writing at the university level (expository and argumentative essays). Students will develop college-level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings.

#### Prerequisites:

Placement by the English Proficiency Test (EPT) or passage of an approved substitute course for the EPT.

#### Goals and Objectives:

Students shall 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 focus, tailored to a particular audience and purpose (argumentative essays will state their thesis clearly and show an awareness, implied or stated, of some opposing point of view).
- The ability to perform effectively the essential steps of the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing).
- The ability to explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively.
- Effective use within an essay 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: grammar (eg. punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

#### Required Texts and Materials:

- Harris, Muriel and Kunka, Jennifer. Prentice Hall Reference Guide. 8th ed. Boston: Prentice Hall P, 2011.
- Krizner, Laurie G., and Stephen R. Mandell. Patterns for College Writing: A Rhetorical Reader and Guide. 12th ed. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's P, 2010.
- College Dictionary preferably The American Heritage Dictionary.
- A 3-ring notebook to hold course handouts and writing.
- 1 yellow book for final examination.
- Black or blue pen for all in-class writings.

Note: All in-class essays must be written in ink, and all out-of-class essays and assignments must be typed and follow MLA standards.

#### Reading:

The readings you will be assigned are useful models for academic, general, and specific audiences. You will read a variety of published essays, both from our text and some photocopies that I like. You will also read a few photo copies in class that will demonstrate the craft and art of syntax and precise diction.

#### Essays:

- All essay assignments will require repeated practice of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing.
- Most assigned essays will address different rhetorical modes sequenced appropriately; however, we may have to revisit a troublesome mode.
- There will be four in-class essays, four out-of-class formal essays, and a final exam. There will be several extended and short quick-writes done in and out of class.
- Out-of-class essays must be typed using 12 font, double spacing, and MLA format. There is an example of the proper style in both textbooks.
- In order to pass the class, you must complete all the essays, write the required number of pages, and write on the assigned topics.
- Always keep a copy of your essay. Back it up in case an essay gets lost or misplaced.

- All out-of-class essays must be handed in with a rough draft. Drafts should be stapled to the back.
- Most out-of-class essays will be 4-6 pages long. A draft may either be typed or handwritten. A draft is the early writing of your essay, so it is not expected to be perfect; however, it should not be a duplicate of the essay you hand in for a grade.
- Papers will not be accepted from friends or classmates; you must hand in your own work during class time; otherwise, it will be considered late. If there is a problem, see me during office hours or make an appointment.

#### Disabled Students:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need 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 register with DRC to establish a record of their disability. The DRC website is HYPERLINK "<http://www.drc.sjsu.edu>" ; if you need accommodations for testing please meet with me at the beginning of the semester.

#### Attendance:

Regular attendance and participation is expected. Grades usually reflect class attendance and participation. Some class meetings require workshops, and every class will contain discussion; neither of these can be made up. You are expected to be prepared for each class meeting, having completed all assigned reading and writing in order to participate. Be aware that I may change an assignment or a due date. If you miss class it is your responsibility to adjust to the changes. Contact another student or me. Always bring the textbook for the assigned reading to class.

#### Due Dates:

It is required that you honor your due dates. All assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. If an emergency requires that you miss class or an in-class essay, please contact me before this occurs. I rarely give make up exams, quizzes or essays without a doctor's excuse. The essay grade drops one letter for each class meeting it is late. Remember: The English department requires at least nine essays appropriately sequenced throughout the semester and totaling a minimum of 8000 words.

This minimum requirement excludes the final examination, journal writing, quizzes, and any brief or informal assignments. Also drafts of all essays must be handed in with the essay and the words DRAFT written on it.

#### Rewrites and Quizzes:

If you achieve an essay grade below a C, you may write another essay on a topic I choose to raise that grade. You may do this only once. There will be occasional unannounced quizzes that cannot be made up.

Grading:

Diagnostic Essay	0%	Formal Essay #1	10%
In-Class Essay #1	5%	Formal Essay #2	10%
In-Class Essay #2	5%	Formal Essay #3	10%
In-Class Essay #3	5%	Formal Essay #4	10%
In-Class Essay #4	5%	Final Exam	20%
Take-Home Essay #1	5%	(5%=100 points)	
Take-Home Essay #2	5%	(10%=200 points)	
Take-Home Essay #3	5%	(20%=400 points)	
Quick writes, 2	5%	(100%=2000 points)	

95-100%=A, 90-94=A-, 87-89=B+, 84-86=B, 80-83=B-, 77-79=C+, 74-76=C.  
(Grades for Repeating English 1A): 70-73=C-, 67-69=D+, 64-66=D, 60-63=D-

Final Exam:

A common essay final, graded holistically, shall count 20 percent toward the course grade. Students must take the final exam and complete all essays in order to pass the course. The final exam is always on a Saturday morning.

Grading:

In English department courses, instructors will comment and note problems and suggest ways to improve. The grade will reflect the quality of student writing as well as the quality of the ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar, punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs.

Academic Standards for Assessment:

You will receive a detailed rubric and sheet of correction symbols I will use to evaluate your writing.

A-F grading will be employed. A passing grade in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English. You must earn a C or better to move to 1B. A C- is not acceptable for entrance to 1B.

"The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the official SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System"). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance:

A=excellent; B= above average; C= average; D= below average;  
F= failure.

Tutoring: San Jose State University provides students with free tutoring at

the Learning Resource Center (LARC) and at the Writing Center. Both of these centers will help students at any stage of the writing process, from brainstorming to major reorganization to stylistic polishing. Students of all abilities are encouraged to use these services; it is a common misconception to consider that these services are for “dumb” students, but no published author made it without another pair of eyes on his/her work.

LARC is located under the 10th Street parking garage in SSC 600; (408) 924-2387. The Writing Center is located on the first floor of Clark Hall in Room 126; (408) 924-2308. You can schedule an appointment at: <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/tutoring/requestforappointment/index.htm>

#### Plagiarism and Cheating:

"Plagiarism is using someone else's work as you own without giving proper credit to the author. An act of plagiarism may mean failure of this course and could lead to dismissal from the university. All papers must be original and be written for this class. No recycled papers. If you have any questions read pages 379-84 in Prentice Hall Reference Guide, and Chapter 35 or Step 6: "Watching "Out for Plagiarism" in Patterns (716-20). San Jose State University has a clear policy regarding plagiarism. You commit plagiarism by buying, stealing, or borrowing a paper; hiring someone to write a paper; building on someone's ideas without providing a citation; or by copying from another source or using a source too closely when paraphrasing."

#### SJSU Academic Integrity Policy:

Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the Academic Integrity Policy require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at HYPERLINK "<http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.htm>" The SJSU rules against plagiarism are set forth in the SJSU Catalog, which defines plagiarism as the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes, but is not limited to: (1) the act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work. It is the role and obligation of each student to know the rules that preserve academic integrity and abide by them at all times. This includes learning and following the particular rules associated with specific classes, exams, and/or course assignments. Ignorance of these rules is not a defense to the charge of violating the Academic Integrity Policy.

## Calendar

Note: Patterns = Patterns for College Writers; RG = Prentice Hall Reference Guide; SLO = Student Learning Outcomes, quoted on page 9 of syllabus.

\*There will be some changes and additional assignments as I become aware of the unique needs of this class. I remind you: contact me or a student for possible changes if you miss class.

Wednesday 8/22            Introduction to course and each other, assign short Quick-write #1, out-of-class, 800-1000 words (SLO 1,2,3)

Monday 8/27              Lecture on informing opposition Quick-write #1 due, assign short Quick-write #2, out-of-class, 800-1000 words (SLO 1,2,3,4)

Wednesday 8/29            Diagnostic Essay Quick-write #2 due Assign Formal Essay #1, (SLO 1,2,4) Patterns: "Description" (151-69) Adjectives and Adverbs, (SLO 3) RG: Compare and correct, CC1-CC15 (SLO 2,4)

Wednesday 9/5            Handout on the structure of the essay, (SLO 1) Discussion of Introductory paragraph and thesis, (SLO 1,2). Return Quick Writes #1 & #2 (SLO 2) Patterns "The Writing Process" (11-64); "Narration" (97-108); (SLO 1). Return Diagnostic

Monday 9/10              Oral reading: narration, description. (SLO 3) Discussion of "The Writing Process" connected to your essay #1. (SLO 1) Discussion: Chronological Order..... (SLO 2) Patterns: "Only Daughter" (111-114), "My Mother Never Worked" (121-4), "Shooting an Elephant" (133-7); (SLO 2,4)

Wednesday 9/12            Formal Essay #1 due: (1250 words)

Discussion: Prepositions (SLO 3)  
Discussion of Problems Encountered  
(SLO 1,2,3,4)  
RG : Writing Process" (1-35) ; (SLO 1)  
Patterns: "Indian Education" (142-47); (SLO 4)

Monday 9/17                    Patterns: "Ground Zero" (167-72)  
(SLO 2,4) "The Hidden Life of Garbage" (188-91)  
"The Storm" (102-6)  
Discussion: Fiction and Nonfiction, (SLO 2,4)

Wednesday 9/19              In-class essay #1: (800 words); (SLO 1,2,3,4)

Monday 9/24                    "Parts of Speech" (SLO 3)  
Lecture: Invisible World

Wednesday 9/26              Patterns: "The Body Paragraphs,"  
(SLO 1,2,3) "The Conclusion" (46-8)  
Assign Formal Essay #2: (1250 words) (SLO1,2,3,4)

Monday 10/1                    Patterns: "College Pressures" (450-6) Discuss the  
nature of modern education and the effects on the  
student. Photo copy: "Touch the Sky, read, Discuss,  
Set up Timed At Home Essay #1 (800-1000 words)

Wednesday 10/3              Patterns:"Exemplification" (211-224)  
(SLO2,3,4)"Why Looks Are the Last Bastion of  
Discrimination" (246-50), (SLO 2,4)  
Lecture/Discussion on Persona and Masks  
Photo Copy Handed Out and Discussed

Monday 10/8                    Patterns:"Classification and Division" (435-46)  
(SLO2,3,4)"Mother Tongue" (466-71)  
"The Ways we Lie" (474-81)  
Photo Copy Handed Out and Discussed

Wednesday 10/10            Formal Essay #2 Due (1250 words)  
Discuss Problems Encountered (SLO1,2,3,4)  
Photo Copy Handed Out and Discussed

Monday 10/15	In-Class Essay #2 (800 words) (SLO1,2,3,4)
Wednesday 10/17	<u>RG</u> : "Parts of Sentences" (SLO 1) "Coordination and Subordination" "Parallelism" 168-218, (SLO 3) <u>Patterns</u> : "Definition" (489-502); "I Want a wife" (503-5), "The Wife Beater" (516-7) (SLO 2,3,4)
Monday 10/22	<u>Patterns</u> :"Comparison and Contrast" (371-90) (SLO1,3)"Why Chinese Mothers Are Superior" (410-4) "Sadie and Maud" (430-1)
Wednesday 10/24	Assign Timed At Home Class Essay #2 (800 words) (SLO1,2,3,4); Discuss Prompt, outline, and rough Draft
Monday 10/29	Assign Formal Essay #3 (1250 words) (SLO 1,2) Discussion the Nature of Good and Evil Photo copy Handed Out and Discussed
Wednesday 10/31	Discussion of abstract concepts and concrete examples Discuss Quotations on prompt Photo Copy Handed Out and Discussed (SLO3)
Monday 11/5	Conclude Discussion of Quotations (SLO1,2)
Wednesday 11/7	<u>RG</u> : "Style and Word Choice" (219-246) (SLO1,2) Critically Analyzing Images and Using Them: "Visual Argument" (88-96) (LO1,2,3)
Wednesday 11/14	Assign Timed At Home Essay #3 (SLO1,2,3,4) Assign Forth Formal Essay due on Final Day (SLO 1,2,3,4)
Monday 11/19	<u>Patterns</u> : "Argumentation" (525-49) (SLO2,4) "The Declaration of Independence" (553-6) "Letter From Birmingham Jail" (566-578) "Should American Citizenship Be a Birthright?" (593-4) "The Case for Birthright Citizenship" (595-7) "An Argument to Be Made about Immigrant Babies and Citizenship." (600-2) (SLO 1,2,3)

Wednesday 11/21	<u>Patterns</u> : "Using Deductive and Inductive Reasoning" (SLO1,2) Arguments and Fallacies (533-40)
Monday 11/26	In-Class Essay #4(SLO1,2,3,4)
Wednesday 11/28	<u>Patterns</u> : "How Can We Address the Shortage of Organ Donors" (605-6) "The Meat Market" (607-11) "The Case for Mandatory Organ Donation" (614-7) "Yes, Let's Pray for Organs" (620-2), "The Surgery Was Simple; the Process Is Another Story" (625-7), (SLO2,4)
Monday 12/3	Unfinished Instruction/Discussion. All late assignments Due.
Wednesday 12/5	Final Exam Preparation.
Saturday 12/8	Final Exam: 8AM; Yellow exam booklet, black pen, dictionary; Formal #4 Due. (SLO1,2,3,4). Location tba.
Monday 12/10	The nature of learning objectives, English and the universe. Discuss Final. Return Formal #4.
Tuesday 12/11	Holistic Scoring--where your fate will be determined. You Rest; I grade.

#### Student Learning Objectives (SLO)

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

