

San José State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
English 1A, Composition 1 (GE A2), Section 61, Fall 2012

Instructor:	Professor Stryker
Office Location:	FO 118
Telephone:	408-924-4428)
Email:	cora.stryker@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	2-3pm Tuesday and Thursday (If you are not at my office by 2:50, I may be on my way to class)
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday/Thursday 3-4:15 pm
Classroom:	MUS 250
Prerequisites:	None
GE Category:	Written Communication A2

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 the "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.

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

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 homepage located on D2L here:

Login URL: <https://sjsu.desire2learn.com>

Username: firstname.lastname

Password: 9-digit student ID#

Course Goals and Student Learning 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 their own essays 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 (e.g., punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

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).

SLO 2: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively.

SLO 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.

SLO 4: Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to write for different audiences.

Information available online

You are responsible for reading the following information online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/english/comp/policyforsyllabi.html>

- Course guidelines
- Academic policies (academic integrity, plagiarism, ADA and DRC policies)
- Adding and dropping classes

Required Texts/Readings

Rereading America Eighth Edition (needed immediately)

The Road by Cormac McCarthy (you must have it by 10/4)

Another Bullshit Night in Suck City, Nick Flynn (should be in the bookstore next week, you must have it by 9/11)

Other readings posted online to be printed out by you from D2L

Late Work Policy: All work is due at the START of class on the day it is due. Any work turned in after the start of class is considered late. I do not accept minor assignments, such as outlines and summaries, late. For major assignments, such as essays, I take 10% off for each class day it is late. Thus, if your essay is due on a Monday and you hand it in the next Monday, I'll take 20 points out of 100 off. If you hand it in the following Monday, I'll take 40 points off and so on.

Absences and Tardiness: Attendance: I will be giving pop reading quizzes at the start of class some days and will not offer make up quizzes.

Eating and Drinking: No food is allowed in class. Beverages are acceptable.

Cell phones, ipods and other electronics: There will be absolutely no cell phones, ipods or electronic devices turned on in class. No exceptions. I have a three strikes rule: use an electronic device three times in class, and I will subtract one point from your final grade; I will continue to subtract one point from your final grade each time you use your cell phone or electronic device thereafter.

The only exception to this is electronic dictionaries or computers that DO NOT have internet access, if you want to type your class notes. In order to not get a strike, make sure to talk to me BEFORE you use your dictionary or computer in class to avoid getting a "strike."

Formatting and Submitting Written Work: I DO NOT accept work by email. All major assignments, such as essays and summaries, must be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1-inch margins AND PAGE NUMBERS, and stapled or paper-clipped.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is "steal[ing] and us[ing] the ideas or writings of another as one's own" without giving them credit to the original authors (American Heritage Dictionary). We will learn in this class how to "quote" and cite properly (in parentheses) without plagiarizing.

For now, though, remember: if you find a summary online and you change a word here and there, or replace a whole bunch of the words with words that have the same meanings, you are still stealing someone else's work and it's still plagiarism.

A first plagiarism offense results in a zero on the assignment. A second plagiarism offense also results in a zero, and you must meet with the Dean.

Grading Summary and Policies:

Pop Reading Quizzes	10%
In-class prewriting and organizing exercises	10%
Paragraph Exercises	10%
In-class Essays	15%
Essay 1 Draft 1	5%
Essay 1 Draft 2	10%

Essay 2	15%
Essay 3	15%
Final Exam	10%

Extra Credit: I will be offering extra credit to students who engage in literary events on campus; you must go to the event and write a one-page typed response

Grading: A-F. This class must be passed with a C or better to move on to CORE GE Area C3 and to satisfy the prerequisite for English 1B. A passing grade in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English.

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.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The [LARC website](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>

English 1A, Fall 2012, Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with notice.

Written in the box is what is due that day; I will expect that you have read the selection before class.

Always be prepared for a pop reading quiz at the start of class; no make-up quizzes will be offered.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	<i>Thurs 8/23</i>	<i>First Day of Class – Welcome</i>
2	Tues 8/28 <i>Thurs 8/30</i>	<p>Tuesday's Readings: (Note: if you have not done active reading before –read “Active Reading,” RA 10-12)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) “Learning to Read” Malcolm X, RA 210-218 2) “Looking for Work,” Soto, RA 26-31 <p>Tuesday: In-class Essay 1, diagnostic exam; please bring a yellow book</p> <p>Thurs Readings: (Note: This week, Thursday's readings are longer than Tuesday's; please plan accordingly)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) “The Crack-Up” by F. Scott Fitzgerald (print from the course Desire2Learn page) 2) “Pamplona in July,” Ernest Hemingway (print from the course Desire2Learn page)
3	Tues 9/4 <i>Thurs 9/6</i>	<p>Tues Readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) “Tradition and the Individual Talent” by TS Eliot (print from the course Desire2Learn page) 2) “In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens,” Alice Walker, (print from the course Desire2Learn page) <p><i>Thursday's Readings:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>“Black Men and Public Space,” print from Desire2Learn</i> 2) <i>“Notes of a Native Son,” James Baldwin, print from Desire2Learn</i>
4	Tues 9/11	<p>Tues Readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) “On Self-Respect,” by Joan Didion (<i>print from D2L</i>) 2) “Plato's Allegory of the Cave,” (<i>print from D2L</i>)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Thurs 9/13	<i>In-class: Intro to Nick Flynn's Poetry, Another Bullshit Night in Suck City</i> Thursday's Readings: 1) Another Bullshit Night in Suck City, 1-44
5	Tues 9/18 Thurs 9/20	DUE Tues: Four Paragraph exercises, 1000 words minimum (total) 1) Another Bullshit Night in Suck City 45-100 Thurs Readings: 1) Another Bullshit Night 101-151
6	Tues 9/25 Thurs 9/27	Four paragraph exercises returned Readings: 1) Another Bullshit Night 152-203 Thurs Readings: 1) Another Bullshit Night 204-253 Thurs: Rough Typed Draft of Essay 1 Due, class workshop
7	Tues 10/2 Thurs 10/4	DUE Tues: Essay 1 (4-5 pages, 1500 words; audience = our class) Tues Readings: 1) Another Bullshit Night 254-299 Extra Credit: 7pm: Screening of <i>Being Flynn</i> , ENGR 189 Extra Credit: October 3, 7pm: Reading and Book Signing, ENGR 189 Extra Credit: October 4, 1pm: In Conversation with Tom Barbash, MLK 225/229 Thurs Readings: <i>Another Bullshit Night</i> 300-345 (finish the book) In-class Intro to <i>The Road</i>
8	Tues 10/9 Thurs 10/11	Tues: Essay 1 returned In-class Essay 2 (open note, please bring a yellow book and all your essays/RA/Another Bullshit Night with you to class) (1000 words) Thurs Readings: 1) <i>The Road</i> pg 1-28 2) "As the World Burns," Jensen and McMillan, RA 715-742

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	Tues 11/20 Thurs 11/22	Tues: In-class Essay 3 <i>The Road</i> Thanksgiving – No Class
15	Tues 11/27 Thurs 11/29	Tues: <i>The Road</i> in-class essay returned Readings: “ <i>Shooting an Elephant</i> ” (print from the course <i>Desire2Learn</i> page or here: http://www.online-literature.com/orwell/887/) Thurs: Essay 3 <i>The Road</i> rough draft due, workshop Readings: “Business Class,” David Sedaris (print from <i>Desire2Learn</i>)
16	Tues 12/4 Thurs 12/6	Tues: Essay 3 <i>The Road</i> DUE Thurs: Readings TBA
Final Exam	Saturday, Dec 8	8:00am – 10:00am, location TBD _____

Important SJSU dates Fall 2012

Wednesday	August 22	First Day of Instruction – Classes Begin
Monday	September 3	Labor Day - Campus Closed (L)
Tuesday	September 4	Last Day to Drop Courses Without Permanent Record
Tuesday	September 11	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late (A)
Wednesday	September 19	Enrollment Census Date (CD)
Monday	November 12	Veteran’s Day Observed - Campus Closed (V)
Wednesday	November 21	Classes that start at 5:00 PM or later will not meet.
Thursday	November 22	Thanksgiving Holiday - Campus Closed (T)
Friday	November 23	Rescheduled Holiday - Campus Closed (RH)
Monday	December 10	Last Day of Instruction - Last Day of Classes
Tuesday	December 11	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams) (SC)
Wed-Tues	Dec 12-18	Final Examinations (exams)
Wednesday	December 19	Final Examinations Make-Up Day (MU)
Thursday	December 20	Grade Evaluation Day (E)
Friday	December 21	Grades Due From Faculty