

San José State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
English 1A, Composition 1 (GE A2), Section 15, Spring 2013

Instructor: Julie Kline
Office Location: FO 112
Telephone: (408) (924- 4418)
Email: jkline616@gmail.com
Office Hours: Friday 12-1; by appointment.
Class Days/Time: M/W 10:30-11:45
Classroom: BBC 128
GE Category: Written Communication A2

MYSJSU Messaging:

You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU. If I need to communicate with the class outside of class time, I will do so through this system so please be sure that the email address entered in the MySJSU system is correct.

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.

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/studentconduct/docs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf

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

Required Texts/Materials

Textbooks

(1) *The Brief Bedford Reader, 11th edition*. Kennedy, X.J. et al. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin, 2012. ISBN-10: 0-312-61338-5.

(2) *The Curious Writer, Concise Edition, 3rd edition*. Ballenger, Bruce. Boston: Longman, 2011. ISBN-10: 0321437810.

- (3) *The Everyday Writer, 4th Edition*. Lunsford, Andrea A. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2010. ISBN-10-312-66484-2
- (4) A collegiate dictionary such as Merriam-Webster. (As SJSU students, you also have access to the Oxford English Dictionary online. It can be accessed through the library website in the databases section.)
- (5) 4 full sized Blue Books for In Class Essays-8.5"x11" size-NOT the smaller version.

Other Readings to be provided by instructor:

Pollan, Michael. "The Animals: Practicing Complexity"

Orwell, George. "Politics and the English Language"

Library Liaison:

Matoush, Toby

Phone: (408) 808-2096

Email: toby.matoush@sjsu.edu

Classroom Protocol

As you know, English 1A is a writing class, but it is also very much a class that requires oral participation. Throughout the semester, we will share our ideas about class readings and we will discuss your work in small group settings. I want to foster an atmosphere in which students feel comfortable sharing their ideas, both written and verbal, without judgment. Therefore, please remember to be respectful and constructive with your comments and, when discussing your peers' work, please try to restrict your comments to how the ideas are expressed rather than the ideas themselves.

Class Participation: Your participation during each class session will decide a significant portion of your grade so please come to class prepared to work. There will be a lot of reading throughout the semester and some of it may be quite lengthy. Avoid attempting to cram the readings in between classes. You will want to read early enough to give yourself time to think about what you have read and to formulate some ideas for the class discussion. Bring your books (except *The Everyday Writer*) and materials (blue books when required, copies of drafts to share for peer review, etc.) to every class session.

Cell/Smart Phones, Texting and Laptops: Please turn off or silence your phones and store them out of sight in your bag, pocket, etc. before class begins. Texting at any time during class, including small group work, is not permitted. Infractions will result in the student being asked to leave class. I understand that situations do arise so if you know you will have to receive a call/text during class, please let me know in advance and step outside to take the call/text. While it can be quite handy to have instant access to information, the temptation to check in on Facebook

or Twitter is difficult to resist therefore, except with permission from the DRC, laptops will not be allowed during class.

Comings and Goings: Class will begin on time so please be ready to go at 10:30. We will also end on time so please wait to begin packing up your materials until AFTER we have concluded for the day. If you must arrive late, please unpack your class materials from your backpack BEFORE entering the room so as not to disturb the class in progress. If you must leave early, please take your materials & pack up in the hall, again to create the least disturbance possible to the ongoing class.

Food and Beverages: Unless you have a medical issue that requires you to have food during class time, please do not bring food into the classroom as it is quite disruptive to others. Beverages, on the other hand, are fine. Try to bring a napkin or two in case of spillage.

Dropping and Adding: Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about adding and/or dropping courses. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. It is your responsibility to follow the proper channels to drop/add classes therefore, if you stop coming to class, I will not automatically drop you. A student who remains on the official roster when it comes time to post grades, will receive an “F” for the course.

Assignments and Grading Policy

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.

Turnitin.com: This class will use turnitin.com for every out-of-class assignment. To stave off any accidental plagiarism, you will be required to upload your final drafts to the site. Papers MUST be uploaded within 24 hours of the assignment’s due date. For example, a paper that is due on 2/25 would need to be uploaded by 10:29 AM on 2/26. Papers not uploaded to turnitin.com by the deadline will be deemed late in accordance with the class’s lateness policy as detailed below. Be sure to sign up for turnitin.com as soon as possible. The code is 5982886, password: writeright.

English 1A Fall 2012 Assignments:

Assignment	Description	% of grade
Short Assignments (SLO 1, 2, 3)	In-class activities, pop quizzes, homework activities, and other short assignments as deemed necessary.	15%
Reading Journal (SLO 1)	To be collected 4 times during the semester as noted on the syllabus.	10%
Participation (SLO 1, 2, 3 4)	Demonstrate your preparedness for the day's work by reading and thinking about the assigned reading and actively engaging in the class discussion, in small groups and in the workshops.	10%
In Class Essays (4) (SLO 1, 2, 3 4)	800 words each. The Writing Sample, though ungraded, will count as the first In Class Essay and it will be the basis for the first Out of Class Essay. Essay #1: Personal/Narrative Essay #2: Description Essay #3: Compare/Contrast Essay #4: Cause/Effect	15%
Out-of-Class Essays (4) (SLO 1, 2, 3 4)	1,200 words each, about four pages, focused on development of writing voice. These essays will undergo peer review in workshop and revision. You will be graded both on the final product as well on your participation in the Peer Workshops. Essay #1: Personal/Narrative Essay #2: Expository/Process Essay #3: Argument/Persuasive/Proposal Essay #4: Analytical/Critical	40%
Reflective Analysis (SLO 1, 2, 3 4)	1000-1200 word essay that analyzes your writing and yourself as a writer.	10%

Course Assignments:

Writing: You will write a total of 8 essays. **You must turn in ALL of them to pass the class.** Four of these essays will be written in class, including an ungraded writing sample. All in class essays will be written in large blue books or yellow books. All out-of-class essays must be in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced and in accordance with the MLA guidelines (refer to *The Everyday Writer*). These essays should be around 1,000-1,200 words, or 3-5 pages and **MUST** be accompanied by a coversheet, which will be provided by the instructor. Emailed essays are not acceptable nor will I accept papers in my campus mailbox. There are **NO** exceptions to this policy. If you must miss a class on the day a paper is due, ask one of your peers to turn it in for you. **Late papers drop one grade for every class that they are late.** The out-of-class essays require that you bring in a rough draft first to be workshopped in class with copies for your group members. Essays that are one month or more late will **NOT** be accepted.

Missed In Class Essays can only be made up under extraordinary circumstances like a major illness or a death in the family. Verification will be required. Should an extraordinary occasion occur, please communicate with me as soon as you know you will need to miss an In Class Essay so that I can make arrangements for you to make it up.

Writing Workshops: An important part of this class is revising and rewriting. You are expected to attend workshop classes, to provide copies of your work for the group and to comment on your peers' papers. These comments should be both written and oral. The person being evaluated should not explain or argue, but should hold all comments until the end. Additionally, students will receive frequent evaluations of their writing from the instructor.

Reading: English 1A is a reading-intensive course meant to help you strengthen your reading and critical thinking skills. You will read many challenging passages from *The Brief Bedford Reader* and from other sources both provided by the instructor and found in your research. All readings listed on the calendar must be finished by the class for the date listed. Class participation is based predominantly on the readings, so to ensure full credit you must complete the readings by class time and be prepared to participate orally and in writing.

Reading Journals: Together, essay writing and reading form the basis of this class. Class discussions and activities will center on readings. In addition to providing examples of effective writing, the ideas expressed in the readings will also provide a starting point for your essays. There will be reading responses due for every reading throughout the semester. These will be collected four times during the semester, as noted in the syllabus. Each entry should be approximately one page for each reading assignment. They should be in Time New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced and stapled together or neatly handwritten in a notebook. Unstapled work will not be accepted. (I highly encourage you to invest in a stapler.)

Short Assignments: As described above, Short Assignments will include in class activities, quizzes, homework and other assignments deemed necessary. **Short Assignments cannot be made up, emailed or turned in late.**

Reflective Analysis project: Process Analysis/Reflection: Consider your strengths and weaknesses as a writer when you began English 1A. Think about what you learned over the

semester and what skills you will use in future coursework and beyond. Write a 1000-1200 word essay that analyzes your writing and yourself as a writer. Your response must be in standard essay format, NOT numbered or Q&A format. You can address the topics in any order that helps you make your point. Include the word count at the end of your essay.

Extra Credit: Come to my office hours to discuss the out-of-class essay you are currently drafting and I will add five points to the grade of that essay. Only one visit per essay will earn the extra credit points but you may come in to see me throughout the semester about all four out-of-class essays to earn the extra credit. If you can't make my office hours, don't worry. You can still earn the extra credit and get help with your papers. I'm happy to arrange to see you at an alternate time.

English 1A, Spring 2013, Course Schedule

Schedule may change with notice given in class and/or by email.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, <i>Deadlines</i>
1	1/23 Wed.	Introductions; Syllabus; Discussion on the ethics of writing
2	1/28 Mon.	Writing Sample: Bring Blue Book. Read <i>Bedford</i> 97-109 as preparation. Index Cards Due
	1/30 Wed.	Syllabus/Plagiarism quiz (make sure to read the SJSU policies concerning Academic Integrity here: http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf) Reading: <i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 1 "Writing as Inquiry" <i>Bedford</i> : pp. 97-120 (Narrative)
3	2/4 Mon.	<i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 2 "Reading as Inquiry" <i>Bedford</i> : pp. 135-52 (Description)
	2/6 Wed.	<i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 3 "Writing a Personal Essay" Pollan, Michael. "The Animals: Practicing Complexity" (Description)
4	2/11 Mon.	Reading Journals will be collected Pollan, Michael. "The Animals: Practicing Complexity" (Description)
	2/13 Wed.	In Class Essay #2 (Description): Bring Blue Book
5	2/18 Mon.	OC Essay #1 (Personal/Narrative) First Draft Due with copies for Workshop
	2/20 Wed.	<i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 10 "Revision Strategies." Bring your first draft & workshop comment sheets to class.
6	2/25 Mon.	Final Draft of OC Essay #1 due at start of class <i>Bedford</i> : pp. 255-275 (Process)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, <i>Deadlines</i>
	2/27 Wed.	<i>Bedford</i> : pp. 287-297 (Process)
7	3/4 Mon.	<i>Bedford</i> : pp. 215-30 (compare/contrast)
	3/6 Wed.	<i>Bedford</i> : pp. 231-236/244-251 (compare/contrast)
8	3/11 Mon.	Reading Journals will be collected OC Essay #2 (Process): First Draft Due with copies for Workshop
	3/13 Wed.	<i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 5 "Writing a Proposal" <i>Bedford</i> : 465-487 (Argument/Persuasive)
9	3/18 Mon.	OC Essay #2 (Process) Due at start of Class <i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 6 "Writing an Argument"
	3/20 Wed.	IC Essay #3 (Compare/Contrast) Prep "Name that Logical Fallacy!"
10	3/25 Mon.	Spring Recess
	3/27 Wed.	
11	4/1 Mon.	Cesar Chavez Day-campus closed
	4/3 Wed.	IC Essay #3 (Compare/Contrast)-Bring Blue Book
		OC Essay #3 (Argument/Persuasive): First Draft Due with copies for Workshop
12	4/8 Mon.	OC Essay #3 (Argument/Persuasive) due at start of class Reading Journals will be collected <i>Bedford</i> : pp. 385-401(Cause/Effect)
	4/10 Wed.	<i>Bedford</i> : pp. 402-408 (Cause/Effect) IC Essay #4 (Cause/Effect) prep
13	4/15 Mon.	In Class Essay #4 (Cause/Effect): Bring Blue Book
	4/17 Wed.	<i>Bedford</i> : 301-321 (Analytical)
14	4/22 Mon.	<i>Ballenger</i> : Ch. 7 "Writing a Critical Essay"

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, <i>Deadlines</i>
	4/24 Wed.	OC Essay #4 (Analytical/Critical): First Draft Due with copies for Workshop
15	4/29 Mon.	Portfolio Project Prep Workshop
	5/1 Wed.	OC Essay #4 due at start of class “Politics and the English Language” George Orwell
16	5/6 Mon.	“Politics and the English Language” George Orwell Reading Journals will be collected
	5/8 Wed.	Draft of Reflective Analysis due with copies for Workshop
17	5/13 Mon.	Final class: Reflective Analysis due at 10:30. Round table discussion of your writing process & what you learned. Be prepared to share your experience of writing this paper with the class. (Bring self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want your work back a.s.a.p. Otherwise, you can pick up your project from me during my office hours (TBD) next semester.)

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/>