

**San José State University**  
**Humanities & Arts / Dept. of English**  
**ENGL 1A: First-Year Writing, Section 37 & 43, Fall 2015**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Edwin Sams
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	T-TH 10:30-noon
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	T-TH 7:30-8:45 (Sect. 37), 9-10:15 (Sect. 43)
<b>Classroom:</b>	BBC 121
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	English Placement Test
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category:</b>	GE A2 Written Communication

**ENGL 1A Course Description**

*General Course Description*

English 1 is an introductory writing course that will help you understand the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication. Through interpretation and analysis of texts, you will develop clear thinking and effective writing that give form and coherence to complex ideas. In English 1A you will practice these skills by writing for various audiences and rhetorical situations.

**Section-Specific Course Description**

*San Jose State University has decided that creativity, sustainability, and global citizenship—making something, keeping it, and sharing it—are the three most important issues of your generation. Masha Gessen’s award-winning nonfiction novel Words Will Break Cement will provide the forum to discuss these three significant ways in which contemporary society develops. Are the members of the notorious Russian punk rock band, Pussy Riot, criminals or revolutionary artists? How does Vladimir Putin’s oligarchical government affect the environment and citizens’ rights? Does what happen in Russia stay in Russia, or do the decisions made there affect the rest of the world? This is the world that you inherit, ready for you to take charge. This is your time to seize opportunities and make wise decisions by polishing your writing skills on these three important themes.*

**ENGL 1A Learning Objectives (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- communicate meaning clearly and effectively.
- identify focus, tailored to a particular audience and purpose.

- perform effectively the essential steps of the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing).
- explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively.
- use within your own essay supporting material drawn from primary and secondary sources, including appropriate citations.
- organize individual paragraphs and entire essays.
- construct sentences with accuracy, variety, and clarity.
- use appropriate diction and tone.
- control conventions of written English (e.g., punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

## **GE A2 Course Description**

ENGL 1A fulfills your written communication general education requirement. Courses in GE Area 2 cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with special attention to the nature of writing at the university. Students will develop college-level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings. A **passing grade of C or better** signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English.

## **GE A2 Learning Objectives (GELO)**

In addition to the learning objectives stated above, ENGL 1A also measures the learning goals of GE Area A2. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to read actively and rhetorically.
- demonstrate the ability to perform the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing) and demonstrate an awareness of said performance.
- articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals.
- demonstrate the ability to integrate their ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres.
- demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing.

## **ENGL 1A Course Content**

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading and writing assignments to construct your own arguments on complex issues that generate meaningful public debate. Readings for the course will include writers of different genders and from different socio-economic classes.

Writing: Writing assignments shall give students repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. Because in-class writing is valued and students should be able to perform well in timed writing situations, at least two essays shall be written in class. In addition, ENGL 1A classes require multiple out-of-class essays.

You will receive frequent evaluations of your writing from the instructor. Evaluative comments will be substantive, addressing both the logic of the argument and the quality and form of the writing. Comments will encourage and acknowledge your success as well as note problems and suggest ways to improve.

**Reading:** In addition to being writing intensive, ENGL1A is also a reading course. You will read a variety of rhetorical and professional works on global citizenship, sustainability, and creativity. All readings will include useful models of writing for academic, general, and specific audiences.

**Final Exam:** As part of your final experience in the course, you will be participating in a campus-wide student showcase. This will consist of a group multimodal presentation at an open assembly for all SJSU students and faculty. Projects will be related to the primary issues discussed in the course.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

*Patterns for College Writing*, 12th ed. (ISBN 970-0-312-69958-1)

*Bedford Handbook*, 9th ed. (ISBN 978-1-4576-0802-5)

*Words Will Break Cement* by Masha Gessen (ISBN: 9781594632198).

(You will receive a free online copy of Andrea Lundsford's *Everyday Writer*. Check MYSJSU for the link.)

## Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

### Assignment Word Count and Learning Goals

Assignment	Word Count	GELO	CLO
Analysis of Russia's environmental sustainability	1000	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,7,8,9
Persuasive argument on Human Rights in Russia	1000	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,7,8,9
Reflective essay: Is Pussy Riot Art?	1000	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,7,8,9
Preliminary drafts	1500	1,2,4,7,8	2,3,4,5
Diagnostic essay	500	1,2,4,7,8	2,3,4,5
Practice Final exam	500	1,2,4,7,8	2,3,4,5
Writer's journal on readings in revised form	2500	6,7,8,9	1,3,4,5

### Grading: A-F.

A+=100, A= 95, A-=90: Excellent writing that is informative, persuasive, correct

B+=89, B=85, B-=80: Above average writing that is organized, developed, and effective

C+=79, C=75, C-=70: Satisfactory writing that is clear, coherent, and complete

D+=69, D=65, D-=60: Unsatisfactory writing that is unclear, incoherent, and incorrect

F=50: Writing that is off-topic, late, brief

Final Average will be determined by the breakdown of these grades:

Three 1000-word essays at 30% to be graded on the A-F scale.

Five 500-word preliminary drafts at 10% to be graded on the A-F scale.

One 2500-word writer's journal at 20% to be graded on the A-F scale.

Ten quizzes at 10% to be graded on the 100-point scale.

Ten participation grades (homework, board work, etc.) at 10% to be graded on the 100-point scale.

One final exam at 20% to be graded on the A-F scale.

There is no provision for late work. Please contact me the day you are absent when work is due.

*Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading according to [University Policy F-69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf>.*

## **Classroom Protocol**

Students are expected to be in their seats when class begins. They should have all the necessary books ready for class activities and discussion. The day's assignments should have been read and assigned homework typed and ready to turn in. Please turn off your cell phones. Computers in class should be used only for note-taking.

## **University Policies**

### **General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student**

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well. (Just ask.)

- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.” (Just ask.)

### **Academic integrity (Cheating & Plagiarism)**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab 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 DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

### **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.

### **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

**Drop Deadline is September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Add Deadline is September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

# English 1A (Sections 37 & 43), Fall Semester 2015, Course Schedule

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/18/15	No class
1	8/20/15	Introduction to course, syllabus, <b>Diagnostic essay</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)(GELO 4)
2	8/25/15	Gessen Prologue, Bedford 19 (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 1, 5)
2	8/27/15	Patterns 2, 3; Quiz (B-19) (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 2, 3)
3	9/1/15	Patterns 4, Gessen Chap. 1 (SLO 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2)
3	9/3/15	Patterns 6; <b>Journal due</b> (SLO 2, 3) (GELO 1,2, 3)
4	9/8/15	Bedford 20; Gessen Chap. 2; Patterns p. 311 (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 1, 3, 5)
4	9/10/15	Quiz (B-20); Bedford 21; Pattern 7 + p. 202 (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 1, 3, 5)
5	9/15/15	Quiz (B-21); Bedford 27 a,b; Pattern 8 + p. 240 (SLO 2, 3) (GELO 1, 3, 5)
5	9/17/15	Gessen Chap. 3; <b>Journal due</b> (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
6	9/22/15	Quiz (B-27); Bedford 27d-g; Patterns 9 (281) (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 1, 3, 5)
6	9/24/15	Gessen Chap. 4; Quiz (B-27d-g); Patterns 10 (SLO 2, 3) (GELO 1, 4, 5)
7	9/29/15	Bedford 26; Patterns p. 339, p. 344, p. 361, p. 466 (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 4, 5)
7	10/1/15	Quiz (B 26); Bedford 32 a-e; Gessen Chap. 5; outlines due (SLO 2) (GELO 1,2,5)
8	10/6/15	Quiz (B-32); Gessen Chap. 6; Bedford 32; <b>Journal due</b> (SLO 1,2,3)(GELO1,3, 5)
8	10/8/15	Patterns 11; <b>Preliminary draft due</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 2,3)
9	10/13/15	Quiz (B-32 f-i); Patterns pp. 393, 404, 410 (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3)
9	10/15/15	Gessen Chap. 7; <b>Analytical essay on sustainability due</b> (SLO 1,2, 3) (GELO 1, 3,4,5)
10	10/20/15	Gessen Chap. 8; Patterns 13 (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3)
10	10/22/15	Patterns 12 p. 460; Outline due (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4)
11	10/27/15	Patterns pp. 507, 516; <b>Journal due</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4)
11	10/29/15	Gessen Chap. 9 Bedford 36; <b>Preliminary draft due</b> (SLO 2, 3, 4) (GELO 2,3, 4, 5)
12	11/3/15	Quiz (B-36); Patterns 14 pp. 553, 566 (SLO 1, 2, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 3)
12	11/5/15	<b>Reflective essay on creativity due</b> (SLO 2, 3, 4) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
13	11/10/15	Gessen Chap. 10; Quiz (B-36); Outline due (SLO 1, 3) (GELO 1, 2, 5)
13	11/12/15	Patterns 582; <b>Journal due</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
14	11/17/15	Bedford 36; <b>Preliminary draft due</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
14	11/19/15	Quiz (B-36); Patterns p. 593; Gessen 11 (SLO 2) (GELO 1, 3, 4)
15	11/24/15	Final Exam Prep; <b>Argumentative essay on global citizenship due</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
15	11/26/15	Thanksgiving Holiday
16	12/1/15	<b>Practice Final Exam</b> (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 2, 3, 4, 5)
16	12/3/15	Bedford 45; Holistic Scoring; Final Exam Prep (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (GELO 2, 3, 4, 5)
17	12/8/15	Gessen 12 & Epilogue, Quiz (B-45) (SLO 2) (GELO 1, 5)
Final Exam	Section 37 Section 43	December 15 from 7:15—9:30 a.m. December 14 from 9:45 a.m.—noon