

San José State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
English 1A, Composition 1 (GE A2), Section 32, Spring 2015

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00-5:00pm
Class Days/Time: T/TH 12:00-1:15pm
Classroom: Boccardo Business Center 128
Prerequisites: EPT of 147 or higher, passage of LLD 1 or 2
GE Category: Written Communication A2

GE A2 Course Description

Written Communication 1 cultivates 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 Course Content

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. Thus, you will be reading articles from writers of different ethnicities, gender, socioeconomic class, and ideologies.

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 three essays shall be written in class. In addition, ENGL 1A classes require at least three out-of-class essays.

Reading: ENGL 1A is also a reading course. The reading is a crucial component of the class, as you must read effective writing to become an effective writer. All readings must be completed by the beginning of each class session, and all discussions and assignments will be based on the reading material. It will be impossible to be a successful student in this course if you neglect to complete the daily reading.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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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, including appropriate citation.
- Effective organization within the paragraph and the essay.
- Accuracy, variety, and clarity of sentences.
- Appropriate diction and tone.
- Control of conventional mechanics (e.g., punctuation, spelling, reference, agreement).

Student Learning Objectives for GE Area A2

Students shall

1. demonstrate the ability to read actively and rhetorically
2. 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
3. articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals
4. demonstrate the ability to integrate their ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing

Information available online

You are responsible for reading the following information online at

<http://www.sjsu.edu/english/comp/policy/index.html>

- Course guidelines
- Academic policies (academic integrity, plagiarism, ADA and AEC policies)
- Estimation of Per-Unit Student Workload
- Recording policies
- Adding and dropping classes

Required Texts/Materials

- Course Reader – Available for purchase at Maple Press (481 East San Carlos Street)
- They Say, I Say 3rd edition -ISBN 978-0-393-93584-4
- SJSU Campus Handbook: *The Everyday Writer* by Andrea Lunsford

All students should already have been given free access to this text. Instructions for accessing it can be found at the following link:

http://www.sjsu.edu/english/composition/writers_help/index.html

Other equipment / material requirements

- Green books for exams
- Notebooks and pens for in class writing assignments
- A college level dictionary

Library Liaison for English courses

Toby Matoush, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library

Voice: 408-808-2096

Email: Toby.Matoush@sjsu.edu

Website: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/profile.php?uid=14949>

Classroom Protocol

Attendance & Participation

Due to the large amount of material being covered in such a short amount of time, consistent attendance and active participation are crucial to being successful in this class. All students are expected to arrive to each class on time with all due assignments completed and ready to engage in class discussions. Failure to do so will affect students' participations scores.

Electronics

In order to create a distraction free learning environment, electronics such as cell phones, mp3 players, tablets and lap tops will not be permitted in class. There may be exceptions to this rule if specific in-class writing assignments require access to the internet or a word processing software, but any such exceptions will be made by the instructor.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, students are expected to 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>.

Essays

Essays will be written either in-class or at home. The dates for in-class essays are noted on the class schedule. On the day of an in-class essay students must bring pens and a green book. Students will have the entire class period to complete their essay response. All out-of-class essays will be submitted online via CANVAS. Pay close attention to the time an essay is due because you will not be allowed to submit assignments late on CANVAS.

Drafts

Students will be graded on their drafts to ensure they are making progress. That said, a draft should be a completed work of writing; credit will be lost if students turn in drafts that do not demonstrate a substantive amount of work. When a draft is due 2 copies should be brought to class and it should also be uploaded onto canvas to receive the instructor's comments.

Point Distribution Chart

Assignments	Point Values	Word Requirements
<i><u>Essays</u></i>	<i><u>575</u></i>	<i><u>4,2000</u></i>
Essay 1 (in class)	Ungraded	500
Essay 2 + Draft	125	900
Essay 3 + Draft	125	900
Essay 4 (in class)	100	500
Essay 5 + Draft	125	900
Essay 6 (in class)	100	500
<i><u>Responses</u></i>	<i><u>225</u></i>	<i><u>4,500</u></i>
15 Homework Responses	15 points each	300 words each
<i><u>Participation</u></i>	<i><u>175</u></i>	
3 Peer Reviews	15 points each	
Overall Class Engagement	70 points	
In class writing assignments	60 points	

<u>Pop Quizzes</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>TBA</u>
Total	1000	8,700

Grading Policy

This course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

Grading: A-F. A passing grade in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English. The following point ranges will be used to determine letter grades:

A- = 900 – 933; A = 934 – 966; A+ = 967 – 999
 B- = 800 – 833; B = 834 – 866; B+ = 867 - 899
 C- = 700 – 733; C = 734 – 766; C+ = 767 – 799
 D- = 600 – 633; D = 634 – 666; D+ = 667 – 669
 F=559 or below

Policy Regarding Late Work

As it is each student’s responsibility to comply with all scheduled deadlines, no late work will be accepted for credit.

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): <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 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 10th 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.

English 1A, Spring 2015, Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is subject to change. All changes will be announced in class and or posted on CANVAS.

Textbooks

[CR] = Course Reader;

[EW] =The Everyday Writer;

[TSIS]= They Say, I Say

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Th 1/22	Due: N/A In class: review syllabus; read “Din in the Head” & practice doing a reading response assignment together
2	T 1/27 Th 1/29	Due: [EW] p1-19 ; Read “The Writing Process & Writing Situations” [CR] In class: Diagnostic Essay (bring a greenbook) Due: P318-339 [EW]; Read “Description” [CR]; George Carlin’s “Euphemisms: It’s a Whole New Language”[CR] ; E.B. White Once More to the Lake [CR] Response to White’s essay due In class: review readings
3	T 2/3 Th 2/5	Due: Read “Narration” & “Writer’s Voice” [CR]; Yiyun Li “Orange Crush” [CR]; Linda Barry “The Sanctuary of School”[CR]; Response due In class: Discuss readings.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Due: Read “The Personal Essay” [CR]; Anne Fadiman “Under Water”[CR]; Response due In class: Discuss readings
4	T 2/10 Th 2/12	Due: p59-77,340-355,303-304 [EW]; Nora Ephron “A Few Words About Breasts; David Sedaris “Let it Snow”[CR] ; Response Due In class: Discuss readings Due: p78-93[EW]; Essay 2 Outline In class: Work on drafts
5	T 2/17 Th 2/19 S 2/21	Due: [EW] p104-122; Essay 2 Draft , Bring 2 copies + Submit on Canvas In Class: Peer Reviewing Due: “Profiles” [CR]; Li-Young Lee “The Winged Seed” [CR] ;Alice Steinbeck “The Miss Dennis...”[CR] Response Due. In class: Discuss readings Essay 2 Final Draft due Saturday on canvas before midnight
6	T 2/24 Th 2/26	Due: Read “Kobe Bryant’s Twilight Saga”[CR] ; Response Due ; 380-385 Dangling/ Misplaced Modifiers[EW] In class: Discuss readings & modifier issues; Due: Outline for Essay 3 + Completed interview for profile In class: Work on drafts
7	T 3/3 Th 3/5 S 3/7	Due: Essay 3 draft : Bring 2 copies + Submit on Canvas In class: Peer reviewing Due: [EW] 355-363 ; 363-374 In class: Discuss readings. Essay 3 due Saturday before midnight on canvas
8	T 3/10	Due: [TSIS] Ch 1-3 “They Say”; Paul Roberts “How to Say Nothing in 500 words” [CR]; Response Due . In class: Discuss readings

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Th 3/12	Due: [TSIS] Ch 4-5 ; bring a newspaper to class In class: Discuss readings
9	T 3/17	Due: Chp6-8[TSIS] “Exemplification” [CR] In class: Discuss readings
	Th 3/19	Due: “Comparison/Contrast” ;“Cause/ Effect” [CR] In class: Discuss readings
10	T 3/24 Th 3/26	SPRING BREAK NO CLASS
11	T 3/31	Cesar Chavez Day – No Class.
	Th 4/2	Due: “How To Tame a Wild Tongue” Gloria Anzaldua [CR] “Mother Tongue” Amy Tan[CR]; “If Black English Isn’t a Language, What Is?” James Baldwin [CR]; Response due In class: Discuss readings;
12	T 4/7	Due: “Femininity” Susan Brown miller [CR]; “The Education of Women” Daniel Defoe [CR]; “About Men” Gretel Ehrlich [CR]; Response Due
	Th 4/9	In class: Discuss readings Due: N/A In class: Essay 4 - In Class Essay (bring green book)
13	T 4/14	Due: Ch 9-11[TSIS] “Rhetorical Appeals”[CR] Readings TBA ; Response Due
	Th 4/16	In class: Discuss readings Due: “Inductive/ Deductive Reasoning” [CR] Readings TBA Response Due In class: review readings
14	T 4/21	Due: “Fallacies & Faulty Reasoning”[CR] Readings TBA Response Due
	Th /23	In class: review readings Due: N/A

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		In Class: In class debates
15	T 4/28 Th 4/30	Due: Debate Response due; Scan through 457-550 [EW] In class: Share debate responses; discuss methods for strengthening arguments Due: Essay 5 outline In class: work on drafts
16	T 5/5 Th 5/7 S 5/9	Due: Essay 5 Rough Draft : 2 copies + submit on Canvas In class: peer review Due : Readings TBA ; Response Due In Class: Discuss readings Essay 5 Final draft due Saturday on Canvas before midnight
17	T 5/12 Th 5/14	Due: N/A In Class: Review For final No Class
Final Exam	Friday 5/15 2:45pm-5:00	Due: Bring green books

Important dates for Spring 2015

Thursday, January 22

First day of instruction for Spring 2015

Thursday, January 22 - Tuesday, February 10

Late Registration period for Spring 2015

Friday, January 23

Winter 2015 - Grades due from faculty

Monday, January 26

Winter 2015 - Grades viewable on MySJSU

Tuesday, February 3

Last day to drop a class without a "W" grade for Spring

Tuesday, February 10

Last day to add for Spring

Last day to submit Audit option(PDF)

Last day to submit Credit/No Credit grading option(PDF)

Last day to submit Instructor Drops(PDF)

Wednesday, February 18

Enrollment census date for Spring

Monday, March 23 - Friday, March 27

Spring Recess - no classes

Tuesday, March 31

Cesar Chavez Day - campus closed

Thursday, April 23

Last Day to withdraw for Spring

Wednesday, May 13

Last day of instruction for Spring

Thursday, May 14

Faculty web access for Spring grade posting opens at 8:00am

Friday, May 15 - Thursday, May 21

Spring's Final Exams (Exam Schedule)

Saturday, May 23

Commencement

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day - campus closed