

San José State University

Humanities and Arts, Department of English and Comparative Literature

English 1A

A Semester In Transition: Moving to Higher Education

Fall 2018

Instructor: Bryan Hoffer, M.A.

Class Schedule:

- Section 35 MW 1:30-2:45 pm
- Section 83 TuTh 1:30-2:45 pm

Email: bryan.hoffer@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: FO 226 Tu 11-12 am, Th 3-4 pm or by appointment

Prerequisite: Reflection of College Writing

GE/SJSU Studies Category: GE Area A2 Written Communication I

This course, *A Semester in Transition: Moving to Higher Education*, will be focused around the experience of acclimating to a new academic and social environment.

Description

English 1A is an introductory course that prepares students to join scholarly conversations across the university. Students develop reading skills, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas for various audiences, using a variety of genres.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

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

The Time You Will Spend on This Work

In a 3-unit course like this one, faculty expect that students will spend **a minimum** of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week). This time includes 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>.

Where You Can Go to Get Support as a Writer at SJSU

Part of becoming a successful writer is learning how and when to seek the support you need.

- **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections offers 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. There are three mentoring 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.

- **SJSU Writing Center**

Located in Clark Hall, Suite 126, the Writing Center offers appointments with tutors who are well trained to assist you as you work to become a better writer. The Writing Center offers both one-on-one tutoring and workshops on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the Center's online resources, 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.

Where to Access Accurate Information about Academic Writing

In Canvas you have access to an online copy of Andrea Lunsford's *Everyday Writer: Writer's Help 2.0*. As an SJSU

student, you have access to the online text through student fees you have already paid.

Where to Access the Technology You Will Need to Do the Work of This Course

You will need an electronic device out of class that allows you to access the internet and Canvas, and to read the online

texts. The University provides students access to technological resources at several locations on campus:

- **Academic Success Center (Clark Hall)**. 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.
- **Media Services (Martin Luther King Library)**. 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.

How to Contact a Reference Librarian

Matoush, Toby
Phone: (408) 808-2096
Email: toby.matoush@sjsu.edu

See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details on your right to understand your grades. In your section syllabus, your instructor outlines specifically our grading practices for the year: information on feedback practices, relative weights of assignments, and the grade calculations.

Where You Can Find Information About University Policies

The Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs (GUP) maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. You may find all syllabus-related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP's [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Readings/Textbooks

*Please note: digital copies of any required text/book will **not** be allowed in class, so please purchase new/used hard copies. If you have any concerns or requests, I would be glad to assess them.*

Required Texts:

- College Rules!, 4th Edition: How to Study, Survive, and Succeed in College, 4th Edition by: Sherrie Nist-Olejnik and Jodi Patrick Holschuh **ISBN-13:** 978-1607748526

Recommended texts:

I will provide an online copy/selections via Canvas.

- The Curious Writer, Brief 4th Edition by Bruce Ballenger, ISBN-13: 978-0205876655
- Kids These Days: Human Capital and the Making of Millennials by: Malcom Harris ISBN-13: 978-0316510868

Various works that will be provided to you via digital scanned copies, or online links:

You are expected to print these out.

Two blank notebooks (8.5x11", spiral, college ruled) solely dedicated to classwork and homework free writing.

The Elements of Style (Free Digital Download - Amazon)

Courtesies

- Cell Phones and other electronic devices: *Neither seen, nor heard. Laptops for in-class formal composition writing and other authorized points only (like peer review). Use of unauthorized electronics will result in 0 classwork credit for the day.*
- Email Protocol: *Proper emailing structure below.*

From: inquiringmind@email.com
 To: isittimetogradealready@email.com
 Subject: [title], [class and section]

Dear/Hello/Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening _____,

Body: [Polite banter about the weather or observational humor, followed by an insightful, well thought out question.]

Thank you/Best/Sincerely,

 Name
 (Contact: email)

- Office Appointments: *Come see me during office hours (see top), or kindly request another appointment time using the email structure (above). **I want to help you. Please ask questions. Come to me before you are struggling and confused.***
- Readings/Homework Assignments: *Everything will be completed before the date on the schedule. This is very important as we will be discussing it during class time.*
- Late Policy: *I am always glad to help you plan and organize your time. All out of class assignments will be due by the start of the class. All in class assignments will be due by the end of class. Formal Out-of-Class late papers will be docked points per. No Informal writing assignments will be accepted late.*
- Attendance: *Come on time and be prepared to learn. I expect you to participate in class discussions and ask questions if something is not clear. Doing the work is not enough. In terms of learning, the material and active class participation makes the class more enjoyable. Because of this, attendance is very important, since missed class time is a missed opportunity to learn and have issues resolved. Please bring all of your books/literature to the class discussions.*
- Absences: *If you will miss class for a university sanctioned reason, e.g. a religious holiday, please let me know **ahead** of time using the proper protocol. If you are sick, you will need to make sure that your assignments will be submitted as normal. For the Midterm and Final, only written formal approvals through the college will be considered.*

Writing Assignments

Formal:

Formal Writing Assignments must be submitted online via Canvas. If I suspect plagiarism, I will manually input it into Turnitin.com. Feel free to check for plagiarism on your own using the Turnitin.com tool before submitting your work.

Standard MLA Formating for all papers: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Formal:

- * Late papers will be docked 10% per day
 - Organization: -- clear, smooth essay structure, with proper connections
 - Formulation: -- logical, arguable thesis, addressing the topic, word count
 - Insight/Support: -- inventing/generating ideas, rhetorical features, logic, with proper support given to claims
 - Style: -- spelling and grammar
 - Format: -- name, course details, proper title, MLA citation

Informal:

- *No late work accepted on the informal writing assignments
 - Classwork and homework assignments

Grading for the academic year

Total ~2000 pts possible:

Assignment	Points	Word Count	In-Class/Out of Class	GELOs for
Critical Reading and Reflection 1	50	600	In-Class	GELO 1, 2, 3,4, 5
Personal Essay	250	1250	Out of Class	GELO 2, 3, 5
Blog	300	1500	Out of Class	GELO 2, 3, 5
Critical Reading and Reflection 2	200	750	In-Class	GELO 1, 2, 3,4, 5
Critical Reading and Reflection 3	200	750	In-Class	GELO 1, 2, 3,4, 5

Profile Interview and Critical Essay	400	2000	Out of Class	GELO 2, 3, 4, 5
Self-Reflection/Final Portfolio	400	1500	Out of Class	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
General Assignments - Homework and Classwork (~40x)	~200	N/A	N/A	N/A

Total for Fall: ~2000 points

Move the decimal place once to calculate your percent, whole numbers, no rounding.

Traditional Scale by %: 93--100=A, 90--92=A--, 87--89=B+, 83--86=B, 80--82=B--, 77--79=C+, 70--76=C, 67--69 = D+,63--66 = D,60--62 + D--, below 60 = F

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is never acceptable. Never copy your own work, or someone else's. Citations and proper notation are very important in the academic world. All protocol on plagiarism and academic integrity can be referred to in your student handbook. Plagiarism can result in your expulsion from the class and/or the school.

Important Dates:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/docs/Final%2006.25.2018.pdf>

Tentative Schedule

Please note that this schedule is subject to shift with the ebb and flow of the class. Please check our Canvas course for the most up to date information. Other articles will be added to the schedule via Canvas based on current events and discussion.

Guiding Inquiry: What does it mean to transition successfully from high school to college? How is writing a part of that transition?

Introduction	<i>Who am I as a college student and as a writer? What are my goals?</i>
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Week	Readings and Major Assignments (Due and discussed on the week listed, see Canvas for exact dates.)
Week 1 (8/20)	<i>Read College Rules: Ch. 14</i> Syllabus and Introduction
Module 1:	<i>Who am I as a college student and as a writer? What are my goals?</i>
Week 2 (8/27)	<i>Read College Rules: Introduction, Ch. 1-2</i> <i>Read The Curious Writer: "Writing as Inquiry" Ch. 1</i> Major Assignment: Introduce CRR 1 In Class
Week 3 (9/3)	<i>Read College Rules: Ch. 4 (pages 43-50)</i> <i>Read The Curious Writer: "Writing as Inquiry" Ch. 2</i> Discuss Planning and Structure of Writing Major Assignment: Complete CRR 1 In Class
Week 4 (9/10)	<i>Read The Curious Writer Ch. 3</i> <i>"Four Steps to Choosing a College Major"</i> Major Assignment: Introduce the Personal Essay
Week 5 (9/17)	<i>Read Smartphone Generation Article</i> Major Assignment: Peer Review Draft of the Personal Essay
Week 6 (9/24)	<i>Read College Rules: Ch. 7 and 8</i> Major Assignment: Personal Essay Due Introduce Blog Post
Week 7 (10/1)	<i>Read The Curious Writer Ch. 14</i> Major Assignment: Post an Introduction and your topic on your blog site.
Week 8 (10/8)	<i>Read College Rules: Ch. 17 and 18</i> <i>Read The Curious Writer Ch. 7</i> <i>Read (Part 1) The Subtle Ways Colleges Discriminate Against Poor Students,</i>

	<p><i>Explained with a Cartoon by Alvin Chang</i></p> <p>Major Assignment: Blog Draft Peer Review</p>
Module 2:	<p><i>What is the culture of our university? How does the university work?</i></p>
Week 9 (10/15)	<p>Read (Part 2) <i>The Subtle Ways Colleges Discriminate Against Poor Students, Explained with a Cartoon</i></p> <p>Read <i>College Rules</i>: Ch. 17 and 18</p>
Week 10 (10/22)	<p>Major Assignment: Blog Due</p> <p>Introduce CRR2 Complete CRR2</p>
Week 11 (10/29)	<p>Read <i>The Misguided Student Crusade Against Fascism</i> by: Michael H. Schill</p> <p>Create College Rules for Social Change</p>
Module 3:	<p>What is the purpose of the 21st century university? How can I use the university to reach my goals?</p>
Week 12 (11/5)	<p>Read <i>Where Are All the High-School Grads Going?</i> By Alia Wong</p> <p>Read <i>Some College Students Choose a School Where They Don't Fit, on Purpose</i> By Kyle Spencer</p> <p>Major Assignment: Introduce CRR3 Complete CRR3</p>
Week 13 (11/12)	<p>Read <i>The Curious Reader</i> Ch. 8</p> <p>Major Assignment: Introduce Profile Interview and Critical Essay Create Interview Questions</p>
Week 14 (11/19)	<p>Introduce Portfolio No Class (11/22)</p>

Week 15 (11/26)	Read <i>College Rules</i> Ch. 23 Read <i>The Curious Writer</i> Appendix A: The Writing Portfolio
Week 16 (12/3)	Read <i>Kids These Days</i> Ch. 2
Week 17 (12/10)	No Class (12/11) Major Assignment: Portfolio Due Finals
Week 18 (12/17)	Finals