

San José State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
English 2: Critical Thinking & Writing, Summer 2019

Instructor: Richard McNabb
Office: FO Building Rm 102
Telephone: 408-924-1382
Email: richard.mcnabb@sjsu.edu
Class schedule: Mon / Wed 9:00 am – 12:45 pm
Office hours: Mon 8:00-8:45 am, and by appointment
Prerequisites: Successful completion of GE Area A2: Written Communication
GE Area: ENGL 2 satisfies GE Area A3: Critical Thinking and Writing

COURSE MANAGEMENT PAGE AND MYSJSU MESSAGING

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, and assignment instructions can be found on the Canvas class website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MyJSU to learn of any updates and class assignments.

SJSU CATALOGUE COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENGL 2 is an introductory writing course that focuses on the relationship between language and logic when composing arguments. Building on the skills acquired in ENGL 1A, you will learn various methods of effective reasoning and appropriate rhetorical strategies to help you invent, demonstrate, and express arguments clearly, logically, and persuasively. For the list of course learning goals: click on the following link: http://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/course_descriptions/engl_2/index.html.

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS

- Course readings are available on Canvas, online, or through MLK Library databases
- Digital access to the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (available free through the MLK database)

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Short Writing Tasks: You will write a number of informal assignments designed to provide practice in the different argumentative concepts discussed in class and in the course readings. These tasks will require you both to analyze and to create arguments using the strategies and frameworks developed by the different theorists. Short Writing Tasks will be completed both in and outside of class. You must be present to receive credit for tasks written during class time.

2. Critical Thinking Map: You will construct a document that *maps* out an argument. Think of the map as a very detailed outline of an argument.

3. Essay Assignments: You will write two argumentative essays. Each essay will go through at least one revision before receiving a grade.

4. Multimodal Project: You will design a multimedia presentation of your written essay.

COURSE POLICIES

Cell Phones: It is disrespectful to text in class. To resist temptation, please keep your phone out-of-sight.

Leaving the Classroom: Once class has started, please do not leave without permission. It is disruptive to class discussions when students are walking in and out of the room. I will give everyone multiple breaks throughout the class session. If you cannot wait, please leave class during group work.

Canvas: Much of the course materials will be posted on Canvas: syllabus, readings, and assignment sheets. Class announcements will be made through Canvas as well. Be sure to check your account daily. Unless otherwise stated, your completed writing assignments will be submitted through Canvas. **You will need access to a laptop or tablet to participate in class discussions and activities.**

Lateness: (a) If you wish to receive feedback on your drafts, you must submit it on time. I do not comment on late drafts; (b) I do accept late essay revisions but not without a 10-point grade reduction; (c) I do not accept late homework or informal short writing tasks completed in or outside of class time.

Extra Credit: There are no opportunities for extra credit in the course.

Attendance: You are expected to attend and participate actively in class. You cannot make up missed assignments completed in class, so please attend regularly.

Course Credit: To receive GE A3 credit for ENGL 2, you must pass with a C- or higher.

To review all other course policies, please go to

www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program_policies/index.html.

Assignment Grade Point Values

| Assignment | Percentage |
|--|-------------------|
| short writing tasks (includes all reflection essays) | 15% |
| Rhetorical Map | 30% |
| Essay #1 Rogerian Argument | 20% |
| Essay #2 Stylistic Analysis | 20% |
| Multimodal Project | 15% |
| Total | 100% |

Weekly Syllabus

(subject to change with fair notice)

Week #1

June 3-5: Emotional, Ethical, Logical Arguments

Fri, June 7: Informal persuasion essay due

Week #2

June 10-12: Enlightened, Purposeful Arguments

Fri, June 14: Critical Map Draft Due

Week #3

June 17: One-on-one conferences

June 19: Conciliatory Arguments, conferences continued.

Fri, June 21: Essay #1: Rogerian Argument Draft Due

Sun, June 23: Critical Map Revision Due

Week #4

June 24-26: Stylistic Arguments

Fri, June 28: Essay #2: Style Analysis Draft Due

Sun, June 30: Essay #1: Rogerian Argument Revision Due

Week #5

July 1: Multimodal arguments

July 3: Grammatical arguments

Fri, July 5: Multimodal Project Due

Sat, July 6: Essay #2 Style Analysis Revision Due

Submission times may change, so be sure to check Canvas
for the time each assignment is due.