

# Writing Competency Through Genres

## ENGL 100A

Fall 2025 Section 01 In Person 3 Unit(s) 08/20/2025 to 12/08/2025 Modified 09/06/2025

### Course Information

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ENGL 100A is designed with the goal of preparing you to succeed in 100W, in other upper division classes, and in your profession. You will have intensive practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing academic writing. You will be asked to research, analyze, and reflect on various kinds of writing and to produce a minimum of 5,000 words, including a rhetorical analysis, a report about writing in your chosen discipline, and five critical reflective journals on a book-length work of fiction or nonfiction or instructor-selected readings. You'll also prepare brief reflections on how the work you're completing in this class helps you develop strategies for achieving the course learning outcomes (below).

### Course Description and Requisites

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Prepares students for 100W through drafting, feedback, and revision to demonstrate writing competency. Develops ability to analyze written genres used in the students' chosen disciplines as well as write analytical and reflective essays.

Prerequisite(s): A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of "C-" or better); completion of core GE.

Letter Graded

### Classroom Protocols

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Writing can be a solitary enterprise, but the critical thinking and habits of mind that go into such work can be developed and enriched in community. Thus, it is imperative that you attend every class and participate in class activities and discussions. Class participation entails: (1) demonstrating that you've completed the readings, (2) contributing to discussions, and (3) completing in-class assignments and activities. Electronic resources such as laptops, tablets, and phones may be used during class only to compose select assignments, or access course materials on Canvas. Please be sure that social media and other distractions not related to our course pursuits are turned OFF during class.

Please note that no unexcused late work will be accepted. If you cannot make a deadline, you must contact me BEFORE THE DUE DATE. For your convenience, most assignments accommodate "submission windows," which allow you to turn in work for a few days after the posted deadline. Note that Canvas automatically deducts 5% per day after the posted due date.

If an assignment is due the day you are absent, submit it. If you are unable to submit it within the submission window, you must contact me to make arrangements. Note that some assignments and activities, such as Peer Review Workshops, cannot be made up.

Finally, if you are absent, you are responsible for finding out what you missed. You can do this by reviewing the weekly Canvas module, checking the syllabus, and asking a classmate for updates.

## University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

## IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES

You are encouraged to use the tutoring services on campus, but all work in ENGL 100A is expected to be your own. If the instructor has reason to believe otherwise, he or she has the right to require additional evidence that the work is your original writing.

Statement of Plagiarism: The English Department adheres strictly to the rules against plagiarism as set forth in the SJSU Catalog. The Catalog defines plagiarism as follows:

The act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. "Content generated by an Artificial Intelligence third-party service or site (AI-generated content) without proper attribution or authorization would also be a form of plagiarism." (Center for Integrated Professional Development, Illinois State University (2023). Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

- The act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work; and

- Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawing, sculptures or similar works as one's own.(available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html> - Student Responsibilities - Discipline – Policy on Academic Dishonesty – 1.0 Definitions of Academic Dishonesty)

Should a student plagiarize in any ENGL 100A course, the instructor will report the student to the University's Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Also, points will be deducted from the assignment/course depending on the severity of the policy violation.

How to avoid plagiarism. It is not always easy to recognize whether you are legitimately citing the work of others or whether you have “crossed the line” into plagiarism. To become acquainted with what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, the following SJSU website offers definitions, policies, and links to useful websites offering guidelines in plagiarism prevention. Students are fully accountable for understanding these policies. <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism/how-to-avoid-plagiarism>

## 🎯 Course Goals

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ENGL 100A is designed with the goal of preparing you to succeed in 100W, in other upper division classes, and in your profession. The course offers intensive practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing academic writing. You are asked to research, analyze, and reflect on various kinds of writing and to produce a minimum of 5,000 words, including a rhetorical analysis, a report about writing in your chosen discipline, and three critical reflective journal entries on a book-length work of fiction and instructor-selected readings.

## 📊 Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

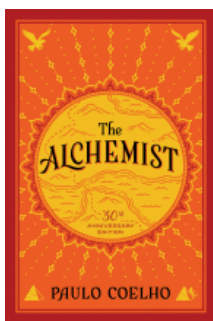
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Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use correct and situationally appropriate sentence structure and grammar
2. Utilize feedback from instructor and peers to improve the accuracy and clarity of writing
3. Recognize, select, and use basic activities of the writing process, including prewriting, organizing, drafting, revising, editing, and peer review
4. Critically self-reflect about the writing process and about making context-appropriate rhetorical choices
5. Critically read, interpret, and synthesize multiple texts
6. Write well organized, well developed essays with a clear thesis
7. Identify how types of written texts in a variety of fields (genres) are influenced by audience, situation, and purpose
8. Employ research strategies to collect, analyze, and evaluate data from primary and secondary sources.

## 📖 Course Materials

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Reading

- *The Alchemist* (25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition), by Paulo Coelho, available at [Spartan Bookstore](https://sjsu.bncollege.com/course-material-listing-page?bypassCustomerAdoptions=true) (<https://sjsu.bncollege.com/course-material-listing-page?bypassCustomerAdoptions=true>) and elsewhere. ISBN: 9780062315007; it is also on reserve at [MLK library](https://map.sjsu.edu/?id=2189#lce/86189?ct/86185,86186,86187,86189,86190,86191,86271,86339,86341?m/1001420?s/) (<https://map.sjsu.edu/?id=2189#lce/86189?ct/86185,86186,86187,86189,86190,86191,86271,86339,86341?m/1001420?s/>). See [course reserve list](https://csu-sjsu.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/nui/lists/10000599050002919?institute=01CALS_SJO&auth=SAML). ([https://csu-sjsu.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/nui/lists/10000599050002919?institute=01CALS\\_SJO&auth=SAML](https://csu-sjsu.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/nui/lists/10000599050002919?institute=01CALS_SJO&auth=SAML))
- Readings as assigned on Canvas
- Student-selected research materials

## The Alchemist

- **Author:** Paulo Coelho
- **Publisher:** Harper
- **Edition:** 25th Anniversary Edition
- **ISBN:** 9780062315007
- **Availability:** [Campus Bookstore](https://sjsu.bncollege.com/) (<https://sjsu.bncollege.com/>) and elsewhere
- **Price:** \$3.14-17.09

## Course Requirements and Assignments

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### University Credit Hour Requirement

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week with one of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Assignment	Description	Recommended Word count	Assessment
Rhetorical Analysis Essay	For this assignment you analyze a piece of professional writing in your major or field or work, describing the rhetorical strategies that were used by the author and how these strategies contribute to the purpose of the document.	1,500	25%

<b>Discipline Investigation Essay</b>	In this assignment, you write a report about working in your major field. This report describes an interview you conduct with a professional in your chosen field; you also write about information you collect from at least two outside sources (articles), following appropriate citation and reference styles (APA or MLA).	1,500	25%
<b>Three Critical Reading Reflection Journals</b>	During the semester, we will read <i>The Alchemist</i> , by Paulo Coelho, and other readings selected by you and by your instructor and respond to this reading in a series of required reflective journals.	1,500	25%
<b>Participation</b>	Discussion posts, quizzes, and classroom activities, including brief reflections on the course learning goals.		25%

## Technology Requirements

**Canvas:** We use Canvas throughout this course.

Login URL: <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. Please note that the URL should NOT have the "www" at the start of the address like many other websites. It is recommended that you visit the eCampus Canvas website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>, which offers a number of Quick Start Learning Guides to help you navigate Canvas tools. Also, detailed guides can be found at <http://guides.instructure.com/>.

Username: your SJSU 9-digit ID number.

Password: Self-generated password for your SJSUOne account

**Turnitin.com:** We use Turnitin.com for the main writing assignments. The turnitin software is already embedded within Canvas, so you do not need an additional password to access turnitin.com.

**Zoom:** Unless otherwise arranged, office hours and the two required essay conferences are held online via Zoom. [Get help with Zoom here.](#)

## ✓ Grading Information

### Determination of Grades

To receive full credit, assignments must be completed on time by the posted due date.

Please note that no unexcused late work will be accepted. If you cannot make a deadline, you must contact me BEFORE THE DUE DATE.

97%-100%	94% - 96%	90% - 93%
A+	A	A-
87% - 89%	84% - 86%	80% - 83%
B+	B	B-
77% - 79%	74% - 76%	70% - 73%
C+	C	C-
67% - 69%	64% - 66%	60% - 63%
D+	D	D-
		0% - 59%
		F

Course grade ranges

## Breakdown

Aside from the course text, *The Alchemist*, by Paulo Coelho, most of the reading and research materials required to successfully complete course requirements will be provided via hyperlink on Canvas. Other materials you will identify and procure during the course of your own research.

## University Policies

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Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

# Course Schedule

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## ENGL 100A: Writing Competency through Genres, Section 1

### Fall 2025 Course Schedule

*Schedule subject to change; any updates will be communicated with fair notice in class and via Canvas. Refer to Canvas modules for details on required reading and assignment submission windows..*

When	Topic	Notes
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 1: Aug. 21	Intro and Welcome to English 100A	
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 2: Aug. 26-28	English 100A Overview and Major Assignments	
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 3: Sept. 2-4	Rhetorical Situations and Discourse Communities	Thurs., Sept. 4: Class meets in <a href="https://map.sjsu.edu/?id=2189#lbm/?ce/86189?ct/86185,86186,86187,86189,86190,86191,86271,86339,86341?m/974165?s/">King Library</a> ( <a href="https://map.sjsu.edu/?id=2189#lbm/?ce/86189?ct/86185,86186,86187,86189,86190,86191,86271,86339,86341?m/974165?s/">https://map.sjsu.edu/?id=2189#lbm/?ce/86189?ct/86185,86186,86187,86189,86190,86191,86271,86339,86341?m/974165?s/</a> ), Room 219
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 4: Sept. 9-11	Rhetorical Strategies and Appeals	
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 5: Sept. 16-18	Integrating Sources and Developing Paragraphs	
<b>Workshop</b> Week 6: Sept 23-25	Peer Review Workshop: Rhetorical Analysis Essay	Rhetorical Analysis Essay—First Draft
<b>RA Conferences</b> Week 7: Sept.30-Oct. 2	Virtual Conferences with Instructor	We do not meet as a class this week! Reserve your conference on Canvas calendar.
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 8: Oct. 7-9	The Alchemist, DI Development	Journal 1

When	Topic	Notes
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 9: Oct. 14-16	The Alchemist, DI Development	Journal 2
<b>Lecture/Discussion</b> Week 10: Oct. 21-23	The Alchemist, DI Development	Journal 3
<b>Lecture/Discussion/Workshop</b> Week 11: Oct. 28-30	DI Development	
<b>Lecture/Discussion/Workshop</b> Week 12: Nov. 4-6	DI Development	
<b>Workshop</b> Week 13: Nov. 11-13	Peer Review Workshop: Discipline Investigation Essay	Discipline Investigation Essay—First Draft  No class Tues., Nov. 11   Veterans Day
<b>DI Conferences</b> Week 14: Nov. 18-20	Virtual Conferences with Instructor	We do not meet as a class this week! Reserve your conference on Canvas calendar.
<b>Discussion/Presentations</b> Week 15: Nov. 25-27	DI Presentations	No class Thurs., Nov. 27   Happy Thanksgiving
<b>Reflection and Celebration</b> Week 16: Dec. 2-4	Final Reflections	Last classes  Brownies!