First Year Writing Section 02

ENGL 1A

Spring 2025   In Person   3 Unit(s)   01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025   Modified 01/22/2025

👤 Contact Information

Instructor: Lilly Chen

Email: lilly.chen@sjsu.edu

To contact me, please message me on Canvas or by e-mail.

For a faster response, please message using the Canvas inbox feature.

Office Hours

Monday 8:00-9:00am
CL 408G

Please contact me to make an appointment during office hours.

💻 Course Description and Requisites

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 Area: A2

Prerequisite: Completion of Reflection on College Writing

Letter Graded

✳ Classroom Protocols

ENGL 1A Course Content

Diversity: SJSU is a diverse campus. As such, our course is designed to include an emphasis on a diverse range of voices and viewpoints. We will engage in integrated reading and writing assignments to construct our own arguments on complex issues that generate meaningful public discussions.

Writing: Writing is at the heart of our class. Our exploration of writing will allow us to prepare ourselves and each other for academic and real-world writing scenarios. Assignments give students repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Our class requires a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. More specific descriptions and instructions will be distributed for all major assignments in class.

Reading: There will be a substantial amount of reading for our class, some of which will come from texts I select (listed below) and some of which will be from sources you locate.

Final Experience: We will compile a portfolio at the end of the semester that includes selected examples of your writing produced for our class, as well as materials from your RCW Canvas course. We will talk more about the portfolio later in the semester.

Time Commitment

Success in ENGL 1A 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) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Final Examination or Evaluation

In ENGL 1A, our learning culminates in a digital Reflection and Portfolio Assignment. In this assignment, we will gather samples of our writing that demonstrate our learning; we will write a reflection essay that explains what we have learned, how we learned it, and how we will use it in future learning; and we will submit our portfolio for consideration to other people in the first-year writing program. This is our chance to identify and articulate what we've learned and what we'll take forward with us into future learning/writing experiences.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You're responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see Canvas Student Resources page.

Program Policies
First-Year Writing policies are listed at the following website: https://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program-policies.php (https://www.sjsu.edu/english/frosh/program-policies.php)

Expectations and Teaching Philosophy

Because you are a college student, I expect you to be prepared and complete the assignments listed in this course. Our classroom is a learning environment, and while you are learning from me, I will also be learning from *you*. Weekly discussions should be interactive; pose your own questions, responses, thoughts, and reflections. There is no such thing as a bad idea or comment; however, derogatory comments are unacceptable. I will not tolerate foul, offensive, and inappropriate language as well as accusing, attacking, or patronizing styles of writing.

As we are in a writing course and are corresponding with others through writing, you need to write in a professional and academic manner. Please use Standard Written English (e.g., no slang, no abbreviations, etc.), and be aware of your writing tone. Everyone must remain respectful, courteous, and open-minded to another's opinions. We are working together as a group to learn from the materials as well as from one another.

Late Assignments

If an assignment is submitted within 24 hours after the due date, the assignment can be accepted for up to 80% of the total score. Submitted within 48 hours after the due date, the assignment can be accepted for up to 50% of the total score. After 48 hours of the due date, students will need to contact me and seek approval to submit an assignment for partial credit. **This policy only applies to assignments that allow late submissions.**

Turnitin

Plagiarizing is using some else's words or ideas as your own and will not be tolerated. Students will receive a zero on an assignment if they use another's words or ideas or use a previous essay that they have submitted in a previous class that used Turnitin. Any reference to another's ideas needs appropriate documentation. This means whenever you quote an author or even use words directly from a source, you need to give credit to that source. If the words are said best by the author, then use quotation marks around the exact words and document accordingly. Even if you do not copy word for word, you must document if using another's ideas. Documentation must be written in MLA style.

AI

Unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) is considered a form of plagiarism. This means that AI-assisted work is not allowed in this course except when the instructor approves of its use and the student acknowledges using it. Submissions with a Generative AI probability score of 20% or higher will not be graded. The AI detection report percentage will be shared with the students for their review. If seeking a grade on the assignment, students must notify me within 48 hours after the initial grading, obtain approval, and submit a revised assignment that does not rely on AI-generated content.

Attendance

Success in this course directly relates to regular attendance. Attendance and make-up work are **your responsibility**. Students are expected to attend and participate in all class activities throughout the length of the course and to contact the instructor if failure to do so.

E-mailing the Instructor

I will *do my best* to respond to my e-mails within 48 hours of receiving them. If the e-mails are sent at odd hours of the night or on the weekends, I most likely will not respond quickly.

Please be professional and use proper etiquette in your e-mails. See Canvas for more guidelines and examples. I will not respond to the nature of your request if the e-mail is disrespectful, dismissive, accusatory, or hurtful. Instead, I will refer you here to my syllabus and the e-mail guidelines on Canvas on how to appropriately communicate with me.

Withdrawal/Drop

It is the responsibility of the student to drop the class. Students should never rely on the instructor to drop them from a class for non-attendance.

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▤ Program Information

Welcome to this General Education course.

SJSU's General Education Program establishes a strong foundation of versatile skills, fosters curiosity about the world, promotes ethical judgment, and prepares students to engage and contribute responsibly and cooperatively in a multicultural, information-rich society. General education classes integrate areas of study and encourage progressively more complex and creative analysis, expression, and problem solving.

The General Education Program has three goals:

Goal 1: To develop students' core competencies for academic, personal, creative, and professional pursuits.
Goal 2: To enact the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice by ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to serve and contribute to the well-being of local and global communities and the environment.
Goal 3: To offer students integrated, multidisciplinary, and innovative study in which they pose challenging questions, address complex issues, and develop cooperative and creative responses.

More information about the General Education Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) can be found on the GE website (https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php).

▥ Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

GE Area A2: Written Communication

Written Communication I courses 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. A grade of C- or better designates that a student has successfully oriented reading and writing practice in English to support college level research and learning and to share learning with C- or better is a CSU graduation requirement.

GE Area A2 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area A2 course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, context, effectiveness, and forms of written communication;
2. perform essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing);
3. articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals;
4. integrate their ideas and those of others by synthesizing, explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres; and
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical abilities in writing.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

📘 Course Materials

All readings will be accessible on Canvas. You need to have access to the Internet, a frequently checked e-mail account, and Microsoft Word.

I do not accept PDFs, Google Docs, Pages (iPad format word processor), or RTF.

Please bring an electronic device (e.g., laptop) to every class meeting as we will use Canvas for in-class activities.

☰ Course Requirements and Assignments

Class Participation: Be engaged in class discussions and complete in-class activities on time.

Essays and In-Class Writing Assignments: There are three majors essays assigned throughout the semester: personal, critical analysis, and argumentative. We will also do various writing assignments.

Assignment	Word Count	Learning Goals
Personal Essay	1,000-1,250	2, 4, 5
Critical Analysis	1,250-1,500	2, 3, 5
Argumentative Essay	1,500-2,000	1, 4, 5
Visual Analysis Presentation	N/A	2, 3, 4
Writing Assignments	150-500 (per response)	1, 2, 3

Final Project: Your final project will be a writing portfolio that will consist of your writing assignments done throughout the course and a self-reflection essay.

✔ Grading Information

Assignments and point value are listed below. Requirements for essays will be handed out later. Please review the course requirements and the effect of poor attendance on the final grade. Grades will be promptly posted on Canvas.

***Please make sure to follow the word limit for each assignment. You will be severely penalized if you go under or over the word limit. I will dock off points if you go over the word limit which includes name, title, and Works Cited page.*

Estimated Points

Journals (2 @ 50)	100 pts
Writing Assignments	225 pts
Essay Peer Reading Sessions (4 @ 25)	100 pts
Personal Essay	100 pts
Critical Analysis	100 pts
Argumentative Essay	100 pts
Visual Analysis Presentation	100 pts
Final Writing Portfolio	75 pts

*To figure your grade, add the points you have accumulated and divide by the total points possible at that time.

Grade	Percentage
A plus	96 to 100%

Grade	Percentage
A	93 to 95%
A minus	90 to 92%
B plus	86 to 89 %
B	83 to 85%
B minus	80 to 82%
C plus	76 to 79%
C	73 to 75%
C minus	70 to 72%
D plus	66 to 69%
D	63 to 65%
D minus	60 to 62%

Criteria

An "A" range essay is organized and well-developed, demonstrating a clear understanding and fulfillment of the assignment, written in a unique and compelling voice. It will show the student's ability to use language effectively with a solid command of grammar, mechanics, and usage.

A "B" range essay demonstrates competence in the same categories as an "A" essay, but it may show slight weakness in one of these areas. It will respond to the topic suitably and may contain some grammatical, mechanical or usage errors.

A "C" range essay will complete the requirements of the assignment, but it will show weaknesses in fundamentals, such as development. It may show weakness in mastery of grammar, mechanics, usage, or voice.

A "D" range essay will neglect to meet all the requirements of the assignment or may be superficial in its treatment of the topic. It may lack development or fail to stay on topic. It may contain grammatical, mechanical, and/or usage errors that interfere with reader comprehension.

An "F" essay does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment.

🏛 University Policies

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

In order to ensure the achievement of course objectives and learning outcomes, I reserve the right to change or alter the course assignments or requirements as necessary. All assignments and assigned readings are due the date on which they appear. Requirements for assignments and essays will be posted on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, and Deadlines
1	1/27	Course Syllabus and Introduction
1	1/29	Writing Experience
2	2/3	Writing Process
2	2/5	Voice
3	2/10	Narration Strategies, Introduce Personal Essay
3	2/12	Grammar Review
4	2/17	Grammar Review

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, and Deadlines
4	2/19	Thesis
5	2/24	Personal Essay Peer Revision Due: Personal Essay Rough Draft
5	2/26	Introduce Critical Analysis Due: Personal Essay
6	3/3	Critical Thinking
6	3/5	MLA Citation Due: Journal 1
7	3/10	Critical Analysis Topic Workshop
7	3/12	Critical Analysis Peer Revision Due: Critical Analysis Rough Draft
8	3/17	Introduce Argumentative Essay and Visual Analysis Presentation
8	3/19	Final Portfolio Workshop Due: Critical Analysis
9	3/24	Argumentative Strategies
9	3/26	Rogerian Argument
10	3/31-4/2	No class—Have a safe and wonderful spring break!

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, and Deadlines
11	4/7	Argumentation Writing Due: Argumentative Essay Proposal
11	4/9	Argumentative Essay Thesis Statement Workshop
12	4/14	Visual Analysis Presentations Due: Working Bibliography
12	4/16	Visual Analysis Presentations
13	4/21	Visual Analysis Presentations
13	4/23	Visual Analysis Presentations
14	4/28	Visual Analysis Presentations Due: Journal 2
14	4/30	Argumentative Essay Peer Revision Due: Argumentative Essay Rough Draft
15	5/5	Argumentative Essay Second Peer Revision Due: Argumentative Essay Second Rough Draft
15	5/7	Final Portfolio: Self-Reflection Essay
16	5/12	Final Portfolio Questions Due: Argumentative Essay
Final	5/14	ePortfolios Due on Canvas by 10:30am