San Jose State University Department of English and Comparative Literature English 1A—Composition 1 (GE Area 2) Section 26 (# 22626Seminar) Spring 2015

Instructor: Carlos Mujal y Leon

Office Location: FOB 212

Telephone: (408) (924- 4488) **Email:** carlos.mujal@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: (W 8:30 - 9:30 PM) (Th 8:30 - 9:30 PM)

Class Days/Time: T/Th; 6:00-7:15 PM

Classroom: BBC 121

Prerequisites: EPT of 147 or higher, passage of LLD 1 or 2

GE Category: Written Communication A2

Course Description: This is the first course in a two-semester, lower division composition sequence. It provides an introduction to baccalaureate-level composition with attention to the personal voice and personal experience, on the one and, and the more formal attitudes and demands of writing at the university (expository and argumentative essays), on the other. Students will develop college-level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings. Students will be introduced to citing sources.

Prerequisites: Placement by the English Proficiency Test (EPT) or passage of an approved substitute for the EPT, such as LLD 2.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:

(Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:) 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 proper 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:

<u>SLO 1</u>: Students shall demonstrate the ability to read actively and rhetorically.

SLO 2: Students shall demonstrate the ability to perform effectively the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing) and demonstrate an awareness of said performance.

<u>SLO 3</u>: Students shall articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals.

<u>SLO 4</u>: Students shall demonstrate the ability to integrate their ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres.

<u>SLO 5</u>: Students shall 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.shsu.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

1. SJSU Campus Handbook: The Everyday Writer by Andrea Lunsford

Print ISBN: 9781457667121 Available at the Spartan Bookstore Electronic edition ISBN: 9781457633423 or Bedford/St. Martin's online (http://bcs.bedfordstmartins. com/everydaywriter5e/)
Online: http://www.macmillanhighered.com/techsupport

2. Kirszner, Laurie & Mandell, Stephen, Patterns for College Writing

(12th ed.) ISBN: 13:978-0-312-48841-3

3. Sabin, William A., *The Greg Reference Manual* (10th ed.) ISBN: 13: 978-007293653 4. Sabin, William A., *Comprehensive Worksheets, The Greg Reference Manual* (10th ed.)

ISBN: 0-07-293655-X 5. A college-level dictionary

6. 4 - 8 bluebooks for in-class essays

7. 2 yellow examination booklets for the final exam

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

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf

Writing: Writing assignments shall give students repeated practice in pre-writing, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to complete the writings assignments.

- The number of writing assignments and their careful sequencing are as important as the total number of words written. Eight essays (four in-class and four out-of-class essays) totaling a minimum of 8000 words are required. Final revisions and drafts will consist of 4000 words. This minimum requirement excludes the final exam, journal writing, quizzes, and other informal or brief assignments. However, it can include assignments that require major revisions of drafts already submitted for a grade and commented on by peers and/or instructor. A major revision is defined as a significant rethinking and reworking of an assignment, and not as simple "correcting" of mechanical errors noted on the original. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to complete these writings assignments with the proper word counts.
- Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to complete writing assignments. How the 8000-word minimum will be met is indicated in the syllabus.
- Students shall receive frequent evaluations from the instructor. In evaluating student writing, evaluative comments will comment on specific features of individual papers. Essays will be revised, and comments will encourage and acknowledge student success as well as note problems and suggest ways to improve.

Reading Assignments: Reading is essential for you to succeed in this class. Please read the assignments before the assigned due date when they will be discussed in class. Bring your books to class; you'll need them. Exemplary students will be good readers—that means, for example, looking up unfamiliar words in the dictionary—and will thoughtfully contribute to class discussions. The required texts can be purchased at the San Jose State University Bookstore.

You will take frequent quizzes, meet with your peers for group activities, and participate in other classroom assignments related to the readings. In-class quizzes and worksheets will be assigned at the instructor's discretion.

Writing assignments: There are eight required essays: four in-class and four out-of-class. You must complete all eight essays to pass the course. The first essay, a diagnostic, will be completed during the second class meeting but will not count toward your course grade. All other essays will receive a letter grade based on the Departmental Grading Policy listed in the syllabus.

- In-Class Essays: Bring pens, your dictionary, and two large bluebooks to class. In-class essays (at least 1000 total words) cannot be made up unless prior arrangements have been made with me (only emergency cases will be considered). The maximum allowed credit for the make-up assignment is half of the original point Plan your schedule accordingly to avoid missing class on essay days. (Student Learning Objectives 2, 3, 4)
- Out-of-Class Essays: These 4 5 page (at least 1000 total words) essays must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins, and must conform to MLA citation and formatting guidelines. You must also provide the rough draft and workshop notes along with your final essay, when applicable. Essays must be handed to me, in person, at the beginning of class. Plan your schedule accordingly to avoid missing class when essays are due. A late assignment will only be accepted one week after its original due date and the maximum amount of credit which it will be given is fifty per cent of the original point value. The only exception to this policy involves the "Letter to the Instructor" which will only be accepted on the due date listed in the syllabus. (Student Learning Objectives 2, 3, 4)

The Final: The mandatory final exam will be administered to all students on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 from 5:15 PM till 7:30 PM. It will be an in-class essay, and you will be required to bring two yellow examination booklets for this exam. Bring a dictionary (optional) and a blue or black pen. Electronic dictionaries will not be permitted. You will have 30 minutes for pre-writing and 60 minutes for writing. The common essay final shall count 20 percent toward the course grade. Students must take the final exam in order to pas the course.

Grading:

Assignments Value	
In-Class Essays 3 @ 5% (LO 1, 2, 3, 4)	15%
Out-of-class essays (4 @ 10%) (LO 1, 2, 3, 4)	40%
Workshops, quizzes, assignments (LO 1, 2, 3, 4)	15%
Participation	10%
Final exam	20%

Grading Policy: In English Department courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing

should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs.

The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the official SJSU *Catalog* ("The Grading System"). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A = excellent; B = above average; C = average; D = below average; F = failure.

Note: Grades from A – F will be given; however, this class must be passed with a C or higher to move on to Core GE Area A3 and to satisfy the prerequisite for English 1B (English 2). Please remember that a C- is not acceptable for moving on to English 1B (English 2). A passing grade in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English. **This course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.**

Academic Standards for Assessment:

The "A" essay (90 - 100 %) will be well organized and well developed, demonstrating a clear understanding and fulfillment of the assignment. It will show the student's ability to use language effectively and to construct sentences distinguished by syntactic complexity and variety. Such essays will be essentially free of grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors.

The "B" (80 - 89%) essay will demonstrate competence in the same categories as the "A" essay. The chief difference is that the "B" essay will show some describable weakness in one of those categories. It may slight one of the assigned tasks, show less facility of expression, or contain some minor grammatical, mechanical, or usage flaws.

The "C" (70-79%) essay will complete all tasks set by the assignment, but show weaknesses in fundamentals, usually development, with barely enough specific information to illustrate examples or support generalizations. The sentence construction may be less mature, and the use of language less effective and correct than the "B" essay.

The "D" (60-69%) essay will neglect one of the assigned tasks and be noticeably superficial in its treatment of the assignment – too simplistic or too short. The essay may reveal some problems in development, with insufficient specific information to illustrate examples or support generalizations. It will contain grammatical, mechanical, and/or usage errors that are serious and/or frequent enough to interfere substantially with the writer's ability to communicate.

The "F" (0-59%) essay will demonstrate a striking underdevelopment of ideas and insufficient or unfocused organization. It will contain serious grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors that render some sentences incomprehensible, or it may demonstrate a failure to follow instructions.

With regard to assignments submitted late, any assignments that is not turned in on time will be given ½ credit only if it is submitted at the next class meeting after the original due date.

Participation: Participation is a crucial to this class, and punctuality is crucial to participation. If it is necessary to miss a class, let me know well in advance. Please arrive to class on time and have your cell phones turned off.

Dropping and Adding: Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section

at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add-drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

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 <u>Peer Connections website</u> at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

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. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.

SJSU Academic Integrity Policy

Presenting the ideas or writings of another as one's own and not giving credit to the author is plagiarism. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/english/comp/policy/index.html
The SJSU rules against plagiarism are set forth in the SJSU Catalog, which defines plagiarism as 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. Plagiarism at SJSU includes, but is not limited to: (1) 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. It is the role and obligation of each student to know the rules that preserve academic integrity and abide by them at all times. This includes learning and following the particular rules associated with specific classes, exams, and/or course assignments. Ignorance of these rules is not a defense to the charge of violating the Academic Integrity Policy.

Any act of plagiarism will result in automatic failure on the assignment and sanctions by the University. Again, please read the "Policy on Academic Integrity" printed in the SJSU *Catalog*.

Campus Policy on Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Students with disabilities that require special accommodations must be registered with the SJSU Disability Resource. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the DRC to establish a record of their disability. Please contact the Disability Resource Center (Admin 110) at 408-924-6000 or 408-924-5990 TTY as soon as possible. The DRC website is http://www/drc.sjsu.edu/

English Class Schedule for Spring 2015

Your texts are referenced below using the following abbreviations:

Patterns for College Writing (PCW)

Greg Reference Manual (GRM)

Everyday Writer (EW)

(All assignments for GRM and EW will be listed in class meetings)

DISCLAIMER: The instructor reserves the right to revise the course requirements and schedule.

Week 1 Introduction, Roll, and Syllabus 1/22

Week 2 Essay #1, in-class diagnostic (SLOs 1-5)

1/27, 1/29 Essay #2 assigned, out-of-class Personal Narration (SLOs 1-5)

Forte, "My Field of Dreams" (PCW 103-105) Cisneros, "Only Daughter" (PCW 111-115) Edmundson, "Pink Floyd Night School" (PCW 116-120)

Ch. 1, "Thinking Like a Writer" (PCW 1-5)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 3 2/3

2/5

WORKSHOP, Essay #2 (bring 3 copies to class)

Smith-Yackel, "My Mother Never Worked" (PCW 121-126)

Gansberg, "Thirty-Eight Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police"

(PCW 127-132)

Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant" (PCW 133-141)

Alexie, "Indian Education" (PCW 142-147)

Catton, "Grant and Lee, A Study in Contrasts" (PCW 393-398)

Brooks, "Sadie and Maud" (PCW 430-431)

Essay #4 assigned, out-of-class Compare and/or Contrast (SLOs 1-5)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 4 2/10, 2/12

Essay #2 due, Personal Narration

Bredin, "Job Application Letter" (PCW 219)

Ku, "Midnight" (PCW 221-222)

"Four Tattoos" (PCW 226)

Birnbaum, "The Catbird Seat" (PCW 228-231)

Cofer, "The Myth of the Latin Woman: I Just Met a Girl Named Maria" (PCW 232-239)

Staples, "Just Walk on By: A Black Man Ponders His Power to Alter Public Space" (PCW 240-245)

Rhode, "Why Looks Are the Last Bastion of Discrimination"

(PCW 246-252)

Kinkaid, "Girl" (PCW 258-260)

Chafets, "Let Steroids into the Hall of Fame" (PCW 253-257)

Chua, "Why Chinese Mothers Are Superior" (PCW 410-416)

Cotharn, "Brains versus Brawn" (PCW 379-381)

Tecson, "A Comparision of Two Web Sites" (PCW 385-387)

Ch. 2, "Planning, Shaping, Drafting, and Revising" (PCW 6-26)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 5 2/17, 2/19

Essay #3, in-class Exemplification (SLOs 1-5)

Essay #5 assigned, out-of-class cause and effect

Ch. 3, "Writing Paragraphs" (WW 27-54)

Rogers, "The Hidden Life of Garbage" (PCW 188-193)

Chopin, "The Storm" (PCW 202-207)

White, "Once More to the Lake" (PCW 194-201)

Hodgman, "No Wonder They Call Me..." (PCW 176-181)

Pellicane, "The Irish Famine" (PCW 333)

Requena, "Major League Baseball Brawl" (PCW 337)

Del Toro and Hogan, "Why Vampires Never Die" (PCW 361-365)

Miriktani, "Suicide Note (Poetry)" (PCW 366-368)

Mukherjee, "Two Ways to Belong in America" (PCW 404-409)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 6 2/24, 2/26

Essay #4 due, Compare and/or Contrast (SLOs 1-5)

Rodin, "The Kiss" (PCW 391)

Indiana, "Love" (PCW 391)

Rubin, "Environmentalism as Religion" (PCW 399-403)

Laird, "I'm Your Teacher, Not Your Internet-Service Provider"

(PCW 417-422)

Tannen, "Sex, Lies, and Conversation" (PCW 423-429)

"Cause and Effect" (PCW 332)

Cox, "The Case against Air Conditioning" (PCW 344-348)

Hasselstrom, "A Peaceful Woman Explains..." (PCW 354-360)

Cousins, "Who Killed Benny Paret?" (PCW 339-343)

Graham, "The 'Black Table' Is Still There" (PCW 349-353)

Ch. 4, "Thinking, Reading and Writing Critically" (PCW 55-61)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 7 3/3, 3/5

WORKSHOP Essay #5 (bring 3 copies to class)

Daniels, "An Argument against the Anna Todd Jennings Scholarship" (PCW 545-546)

ACLU, "Thanks to Modern Science" (PCW 551-552)

Kamenetz, "Take This Internship and Shove It" (PCW 583-587)

Halperin, "No Pay? Many Interns Say, 'No Problem' " (PCW 588-

592)

Tabarrok, "The Meat Market" (PCW 607-613)

Ousborne, "Does This Tax Make Me Look Fat?" (PCW 647-650)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 8 3/10, 3/12

Jefferson, "The Declaration of Independence" (PCW 553-558)

Stanton, "Declaration of Sentiments" (PCW 559-565)

King, "Letter from Birmingham" (PCW 566-581)

Essay #5 due, Cause and Effect (SLOs 1-5)

Film & Written Analysis: "Reluctant Revolutionaries"

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 9 3/17, 3/19

Essay #6, in-class Argumentation (SLOs 1-5)

Chavez, "The Case for Birthright Citizenship" (PCW 595-599)

Will, "An Argument to Be Made about Immigrant Babies and Citizenship" (PCW 600-604)

Carney, "The Case for Mandatory Organ Donation" (PCW 614-619)

Krauthammer, "Yes, Let's Pay for Organs" (PCW 620-624)

Postrel, "The Surgery Was Simple; the Process Is Another Story" (PCW

625-629)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 10 3/24, 3/26

4/2

Holiday

Week 11 3/31 (Holiday) Daines, "A Tax That Invests in Our Health" (PCW 632-635)

Leonhardt, "Fat Tax" (PCW 636-640)

Engber, "Let Them Drink Water!" (PCW 641-646)

Mitford, "The Embalming of Mr. Jones" (PCW 303-310)

Essay #7 assigned, out-of-class, rewrite of Essay #6 (SLOs 1-5)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 12 4/7, 4/9

McGlade, "The Search" (PCW 270-272) Hunt, "Medium Ash Brown" (PCW 275)

Fish, "Getting Coffee Is Hard to Do" (PCW 286-289)

Piven et al, "How to Decorate Your Room When You're Broke"

(PCW 290-297)

Miller, "Get It Right: Privatize Executions" (PCW 298-302)

Jackson, "The Lottery" (PCW 311-318)

Malcolm X, "My First Conk" (PCW 281-285)

Film: Written Analysis: "Malcolm X"

Logical Fallacies

WORKSHOP Essay #7 (bring 3 copies to class) (SLOs 1-5)

Assignments: GRM & EW

Week 13 4/14, 4/16

Lahiri, "Rice" (PCW 172-175)

Kirby, "Inked Well" (PCW 685--691)

Swift, "A Modest Proposal" (PCW 692-701)

Ehrenreich, "The Shame Game" (PCW 680-684)

Distribute directions for Letter to Instructor

Mahtab, "The Untouchable" (PCW 496-498)

Brady, "I Want a Wife" (PCW 503-506)

Burciaga, "Tortillas" (PCW 507-510)

Smith, "The Wife-Beater" (PCW 516-519)

Daum, "Fame-iness" (PCW 511-515)

Brown, "Love and Other Catastrophes" (PCW 520-521)

Essay #7 due, rewrite of Essay #6 (SLOs 1-5)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 14 Martinez, "What I Learned (and Didn't Learn) in College"

4/21, 4/23 (PCW 442-444)

Zinsser, "College Pressures" (PCW 450-459)

Segal, "The Dog Ate My Disk, and Other Tales of Woe"

(PCW 460-465)

Assignments: EW & GRM

Tan, "Mother Tongue" (PCW 466-473) Week 15

4/28, 4/30

Ericsson, "The Ways We Lie" (PCW 474-483) Eighner, "On Dumpster Diving" (PCW 664-679)

Collins, "Aristotle" (PCW 484-486)

Film

Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 16 Essay #8, in-class preparation for the final (SLOs 1-5)

5/5, 5/7 Preparation for final exams

> **Mock Final/ Feedback** Assignments: EW & GRM

Week 17 **Last Day of Instruction**

5/12 (T) All Projects due/ Grade Evaluation

May 19 Final Exam (SLOs 1-5)

Tuesday, May 19 (5:15 PM – 7:30 PM)

Room: BBC 121

Assignments Descriptions:

[Connecting Student Learning Objectives, SLOs 1- 5 with Specific Assignments]

In-class essays (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) Out-of-class essays (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Important SJSU Dates Spring 2015

Tuesday	January 1	New Year's Day - Campus Closed (N)
Monday	January 19	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Campus Closed
Wednesday	January 21	Spring Semester Begins
		First Day of Instruction
		Last Day to Drop Courses Without an Entry on
•	•	Student's Permanent Record (D)
Tuesday	February 10	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late (A)
Wednesday	February 18	Enrollment Census Date (CD)
		Spring Recess (*SPRING RECESS*)
Tuesday	March 31	Cesar Chavez Day Observed - Campus
Closed		
Wednesday	May 13	Last Day of Instruction – Last Day of
·	•	Classes
Thursday	May 14	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams)
FridayMay 15Final examinations		
Monday - Thursday May 18-21 Final Examinations		
Friday May 22 Final Examinations Make-Up Day (MU) Thursday		
Saturday May 23 Commencement (C)		
Monday May 25Memorial Day - Campus Closed (M)		
Tuesday May 26 Grade Evaluation Day (E)		
Wednesday May 27 Grades Due From Faculty (G)		
Wednesday May 27 End of Academic Year - End of Spring		
-		Semester