## San José State University/Spring 2016 Department of English and Comparative Literature English 1B, Argument and Analysis (GE C2)

#### **Sections 3, 7,15, and 19 ALL in BBC 123**

Instructor: Sherri Harvey

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10:40-11:40 and via email

Class Days/Time: Tues/Thurs 7:30, 9:00, 12 and 1:30 in BBC 123

## Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/people/sherri.harvey or accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking your email for any changes or additional assignments or supplemental material that might be assigned.

# ENGL 1B Course Description

English 1B is a writing course that focuses on argumentation and analysis. Through the study of literary, rhetorical, and professional texts, you will develop the habits of mind required to write argumentative and critical essays. Particular emphasis is placed on writing and reading processes. You will have repeated practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing, and repeated practice in reading closely in a variety of forms, styles, structures, and modes.

ENGL 1B Section Description This course will focus on the theme: Heroes and Villains. We will explore our own cognitive biases that inform us of the differences between a hero and a villain. We will think about the forces in society that shape those biases, and consider how awareness and education affects those biases. (A list of this biases can be

found at <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_cognitive\_biases">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_cognitive\_biases</a> (Links to an external site.). Using Jeanette Wall's The Glass Castle, and poems by Elenor Lerman, Kim Addonizio, Charles Bukowski (to name a few), we will explore how the things we read, see, watch, understand shape how we see the world. Our research paper will focus on how art is used to make argument. You will be expected to visit The San Jose Museum of Art, <a href="http://sjmusart.org/">http://sjmusart.org/</a> (Links to an external site.), to create your own argument about your beliefs.

A GREAT QUESTION TO KEEP TRYING TO ANSWER throughout the semester: Who is the hero, and who is the villain?

# **ENGL 1B Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of the course, you will bring into your personal and professional life the abilities needed to participate in social and cultural communities:

- 1. reading literature and related texts purposefully to establish contexts for analysis.
- 2. reading texts rhetorically, taking into account a writer's purpose, audience, and context.
- 3. using critical thinking skills—such as synthesis, interpretation, response, and evaluation—to write essays that integrate ideas with those from appropriate primary and secondary sources.
- 4. integrating and documenting quotations, summaries, and paraphrases.
- 5. identifying and using strategies for drafting, revising, collaborating, and editing essays.
- 6. controlling syntax, grammar, and punctuation to develop prose that is readable, logical, and clear.

#### **GE C2 Course Description**

ENGL 1B fulfills general education area C2 Letters. Courses in Letters give students knowledge and understanding of significant works of the human intellect and imagination. You will examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes in the production and perception of such works, and the significance of the historical and cultural contexts in which the works are created and interpreted. Courses will enable you to participate in social and cultural communities associated with artistic and literary endeavors, enriching your personal and professional life.

## **GE C2 Learning Outcomes (GELO)**

In addition to the learning objectives stated above, ENGL 1B also measures the learning goals of GE Area C2, Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to

- 1. recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns;
- 2. respond to such works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses;

3. write clearly and effectively.

#### ENGL 1B Course Content

<u>Diversity</u>: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading and writing assignments to construct your own arguments on complex issues (such as diversity and ethnicity, class and social equality) that generate meaningful public debate. Readings for the course will include writers of different genders and from different socio-economic classes.

<u>Writing:</u> You will write a series of essays informed by research and articulating fully developed arguments about complex issues. Writing assignments will give you repeated practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. Assignments include in-class writing as well as revised out-of-class essays.

Reading: Readings should not only engage the themes of your course so that they become part of the writing process, but readings should also include useful models of writing for academic, general, and specific audiences. The majority of the reading should be devoted to analytical, critical, and argumentative texts. Your goal in teaching the reading process is to help students develop and refine strategies for understanding the logical structure of argumentative writing.

<u>Critical Thinking</u>:In addition to focusing on how to write arguments, the course also teaches you how to analyze and evaluate texts critically. More specifically, you will practice evaluating arguments for purpose, audience, rhetorical strategies, conclusions; evaluating ideas by contextualizing your assumptions and values (historical, cultural, socio-economic, political); and evaluating your own understanding of ideas by identifying your own interpretative lens.

Research: ENGL 1B will include a library orientation conducted by a trained librarian to introduce the library and basic research strategies that you will need to complete upper-division coursework, including locating materials, using them effectively (e.g., quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing), and citing them properly.

<u>Oral Communication</u>: You will be responsible for creating a group presentation using Google Docs that will expect you to teach the class about your interpretation of a chosen poet by a contemporary poet. You will, essentially, teach the class as you demonstrate your knowledge of the implications and nuances of poetry. You will support your ideas with multi-media sources as you work together to uncover your own interpretation of your chosen poem. Your will be graded by valuative cmments, addressing issues of both content and presentation, will substantively remark on the logic of the argument as well as the presentation's delivery.

#### Required Texts/Readings

Word Passion II reader available through your instructor

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls available online as a PDF, or for purchase in any bookstore or online

ONLINE FREE LINK:

http://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/17638/The\_Glass\_Castle.pdf

The Everyday Writer, Lunsford, Andrea (recommended)

Print ISBN: 9781457667121 Available at the Spartan Bookstore

Electronic edition ISBN: 9781457633423 or Bedford/St. Martin's online (http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.

com/everydaywriter5e/)

If you own a used copy of *The Everyday Writer*, a new LearningCurve access code must be purchased from either the Spartan Bookstore (ISBN: 9781457643637) or Bedford/St. Martin's online (http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/everydaywriter/lc)

HERE IS A PLACE TO WRITE IN YOUR OWN SCORES and KEEP TRACK OF YOUR OWN GRADE:

MY GRADES (write below)

100 points	SLO1,2	Paper One , The Glass Castle: Heros and Villains	
100 points	SLO 1,2,3	Paper Two, Oral Presentation of a Poem	
100 points	SLO1,4,5	Paper Three, Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	
100 points	SLO 4,5,6	Paper Four, first draft of research paper	
250 points	SLO 1-6	Paper Five, Research Paper	
50 points	SLO3	In Class Essay # 1 DIAGNOSTIC ESSAY	
50 points	SLO 3	In Class Essay #2 REWRITE OF DIAGNOSTIC ESSAY	
200 points	SLO 1-6	Final exam	
50 points	SLO 3-4	Class participation based on in-class POP quizzes and exercises	

#### Library Liaison

ENGL 1B requires students to conduct library research.

Silke Higgins presents our InfoPower Sessions and is also available for consultation. Phone: 408-808-2118

Email: silke.higgins@sjsu.edu. Silke will be the one conducting our inforpower sessions.

# ENGL 1B Section-Specific Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will 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 <a href="University Policy S12-3">University Policy S12-3</a> (Links to an external site.) at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

#### CLASSROOM PROTOCOL

**ATTENDANCE:** this consists both of being in class <u>on time</u>, remaining for the entire class period, and being prepared with that day's reading and writing in order to participate fully in class discussions, collaborative workshops, and in-class writings. You must be on time for class in order to turn your paper in that day. If you are late or absent on the day a paper is due, your paper will not be accepted. Please do not email me your essay or give it to a friend to turn it in without making prior arrangements with me. Additionally, in-class quizzes may not be made up. In-class essays may only be made up with prior notification and a written excuse of an <u>emergency</u> that is verifiable, such as a note from your doctor, health clinic, legal subpoena, etc. In short, please be here and BE PREPARED. If you are absent, please contact a classmate to figure out what you missed. If you send me an email asking what we missed, I will not respond. You are an adult and shall be treated like one in this class. If you miss class, contact a class mate, check the faculty web page, review the assignment schedule, or come to office hours. **DO NOT MAKE YOUR ABSENCE MY PROBLEM**.

**ESSAY FORMAT:** All out of class essays must be typed, double spaced, using 1inch margins, no title pages or binders, and must include rough drafts. This should be taken care of prior to the time the essay is due. No last minute scrambling will be accepted. If you fail to follow MLA format, your paper will not be accepted.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Out-of-class essays with no peer review will be dropped one letter grade. To avoid this, do not be absent on the days we conduct peer evaluations. A copy of your prewriting, rough draft and peer edit sheets need to accompany your final essay. Please do not email your essay to me in lieu of coming to class during peer evaluation without making prior arrangements.

Meaningful and constructive dialogue is encouraged in this class and requires a degree of mutual respect, willingness to listen, and tolerance of opposing points of view. Respect for individual differences and alternative viewpoints will be maintained at all times in this class. One's words and use of language should be temperate and within acceptable bounds of civility and decency.

Since every student is entitled to full participation in class without interruption, all students are expected to come to class prepared and on time, and remain for the full class period.

**RESEARCH PAPER:** English 1B shall include an introduction to the library and to basic research strategies, including locating materials, using them effectively and citing them properly. A traditional research paper is mandatory. The research paper will be your final out-of-class essay that counts for a total of 45% of your final grade. It will follow MLA format like all out-of-class essays, and will include a Works Cited page. The paper will have a number of components, all of which will count toward the final grade, and will be discussed in class.

Please note: your proposal counts as a paper. If you fail to turn in ANY of the components of the paper, (including the rough draft, the proposal and annotated bibliography) you will not receive credit for the paper and therefore, fail the class. They are independent assignments but dependent on each other for your success in this class.

**READINGS:** Critical reading is the second objective of the course. You will be required to come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that day. The readings will acquaint you with a wide variety of writing styles, techniques, opinions and genres. Pop quizzes will be given if I notice that you are not reading.

**NOTE**: The schedule of assignments is tentative and is subject to change based on the needs of everyone in class. It is crucial that you are present to stay in tune with the class. Be sure to exchange phone numbers with other students because if you miss a class, you are still expected to be prepared for the next class.

ATTENDANCE: this consists both of being in class on time, remaining for the entire class period, and being prepared with that day's reading and writing in order to participate fully in class discussions, collaborative workshops, and in-class writings. You must be on time for class in order to turn your paper in that day. If you are late or absent on the day a paper is due, your paper will not be accepted. Please do not email me your essay or give it to a friend to turn it in without making prior arrangements with me. Additionally, in-class quizzes may not be made up. In-class essays may only be made up with prior notification and a written excuse of an emergency that is verifiable, such as a note from your doctor, health clinic, legal subpoena, etc. In short, please be here and BE PREPARED. DO NOT MAKE YOUR ABSENCE MY PROBLEM. If you are absent, you are still responsible for keeping up with the class. Please contact a friend in class to find out what you missed.

# Please make sure your name and the time that we meet is listed on all paperwork you turn in to me.

Cell phones and computers may be used in class as long as they are relevant to what we are doing—which is up to me. If I see you texting, I will ask you to SING A SONG.

REGARDING CELL PHONES OR PAGERS IN CLASS: If your cell phone rings in class, you are required to bring cookies for the entire class to the next meeting.

#### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:

I will be prepared for class, on time, I will not leave early, I will be respectful of you and your opinions. I will put in the time and effort required to run a successful classroom as a leader, but the effort and the work from you is also required for the class to run. This class is a community of learners, which means we will depend upon each other to support and inform one another. When debating issues in class, be careful to maintain a professional demeanor and to present reasoned and balanced arguments that are supported by evidence from either the readings, from lecture, or from your personal experience. Since everyone is different, everyone will have different perceptions of what is civil and uncivil behavior, so if you are offended by something that either another student does or says, please let me know. In the same way, please let me know if you are offended by something I say or do. It is my intention to ensure this classroom is a safe place for all to voice their opinions and present cases. Please help me to do that!

#### **University Policies**

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See <a href="University Policy S90-5">University Policy S90-5</a> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf</a>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the <a href="SJSU catalog">SJSU catalog</a>, at <a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html</a>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

#### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's <a href="Catalog Policies">Catalog Policies</a> section at <a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html</a>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the <a href="Academic Calendars webpage">Academic Calendars webpage</a> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\_calendars/">http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\_calendars/</a>. The <a href="Late Drop Policy">Late Drop Policy</a> is available at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/">http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/</a>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the <u>Advising Hub</u> at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

#### Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

<u>University Policy S12-7</u>, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - o In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

#### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The <u>University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2</u> at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The <u>Student Conduct and Ethical Development website</u> is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

#### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make 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. <a href="Presidential Directive 97-03">Presidential Directive 97-03</a> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\_1997-03">http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\_1997-03</a>. pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the <a href="https://www.sjsu.edu/aec">Accessible Education Center</a> (AEC) at <a href="https://www.sjsu.edu/aec">https://www.sjsu.edu/aec</a> to establish a record of their disability.

#### Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

# **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the <u>Academic Success Center</u> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/located">http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/located</a> 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. 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.

## **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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="Writing Center website">Writing Center website</a> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter">http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter</a>.

## **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit <a href="Counseling Services website">Counseling Services website</a> at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.">http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.</a>

## Assignments and Grading Policy

Write THREE NAMES, PHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW: CLASS CONTACTS:

# English 1B, Spring 2016, Course Schedule

Please note: this schedule is tentative and subject to change based on the needs of everyone in the class. Please keep up by contacting another classmate if you miss class. DO NOT email me and ask me what we did in class.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		We will discuss readings on the day listed
1		Syllabus introduction
	Jan 28	Introductions to classmates
		Abstract vs Concrete Language
		Read Prewriting Strategies
		athttp://faculty.ncwc.edu/lakirby/English%20090/prewriting_strategies.htm (Links to an external
		site.)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
		We will discuss readings on the day listed	
2	Feb 2	ICE # 1/Claiming an Education	
	Feb 4	NO CLASS: please read THE GLASS CASTLE—through Part 2 for Tuesday, Feb 9	
		PDF LINK:	
		http://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/17638/The_Glass_Castle.pdf	
3	Feb 9	Introduction to TGC/Discuss topics for Essay # 1/TGC	
		Discuss Quoting MLA Style Using Quotes to support argument	
	Feb 11	TGC/ Discuss MLA format	
		http://www.calstatela.edu/library/guides/3mla.pdf (Links to an external site.)	
	F 1 16	D. C. CE. WILL DRIVE A CONTEST TO CLASS	
4	Feb 16	Drafts of Essay # 1 due BRING 3 COPIES TO CLASS	
	Feh 18	ESSAY # 1 DUE	
	100 10	Begin POETRY	
5	Feb 23		
3	Feb 25		
6		Poetry Workday	
0	1	Presentations	
	March	resentations	
	3		
7	March 8	Presentations	
		Presentations	
	March	Presentations	
	10		
8	March 15	Presentations	
	March		
	17	Discuss writing an annotated bibliography	
9	March	INFOPOWER PRESENTATION	
	22 March		
	24	http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/reource/614/01/ (Links to an external site.)	
10		Spring Break	
	29		
	March 31		

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		We will discuss readings on the day listed
11	April	Writing an Argument /RESEARCH EXPECTATIONS
	5	http://papyr.com/hypertextbooks/comp2/critique.htm (Links to an external site.)
	Aprl 7	MUSEUM TRIP
12	Aprl 12	Evaluating Websites
	Aprl 14	INFOPOWER # 2
13	Aprl 19	http://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/ref/research/webeval.html (Links to an external site.) Proposals plus annotated bib due (Essay # 3)
	Aprl 21	IN CLASS ESSAY # 2/revision
14	Aprl 26	Drafts of research papers due (Essay # 4)
	Aprl 28	WORK DAY
15	May 3	RESEARCH PAPERS DUE
	May 5	ICE #3
16	May10	FINAL EXAM
	May 12	Last day of class—party!

May 16 is last day of instruction

University Final Exams: May 18-24

#### Helpful sites:

Purdue University Online Writing Lab <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/</a> (Links to an external site.)

Grammar Bytes—Interactive Grammar Exercises <a href="http://chompchomp.com">http://chompchomp.com</a> (Links to an external site.)

10 Steps to Writing an Essay <a href="http://www1.aucegypt.edu/academic/writers/">http://www1.aucegypt.edu/academic/writers/</a> (Links to an external site.)

11 Rules for Writers <a href="http://junketstudies.com/omla/11-rules-of-writing/">http://junketstudies.com/omla/11-rules-of-writing/</a> (Links to an external site.)

**12 Tools to Keep Your School Life Organized** <a href="http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2328292,00.asp">http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2328292,00.asp</a> (Links to an external site.)

Tech Tools for

Scholarshttp://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/library\_babel\_fish/tech\_tools\_for\_scholars\_the\_sequel (Links to an external site.)

Audience Analysis

http://papyr.com/hypertextbooks/comp1/audience.htm (Links to an external

site.)

Coherence and Unity
external site.)
Proofreading
external site.)
Varying Sentence Structure

http://papyr.com/hypertextbooks/comp1/coherent.htm (Links to an

http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Proofreading.html (Links to an

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/573/01/

We will complete this in class.

From Claiming an Education (1977) by Adrienne Rich taken from a speech given at Mills College

The first thing I want to say to you, who are students, is that you cannot afford to think of being here to receive an education: you will do much better to think of being here to claim one. One of the dictionary definitions of the verb "to claim" is: to take as the rightful owner; to assert in the face of possible contradiction. "To receive" is to come into possession of: to act as receptacle or container for; to accept as authoritative or true. The difference is that between acting and being acted-upon, and for women it can literally mean the difference between life and death.....Responsibility to yourself means that you don't fall for shallow and easy solutions--predigested books and ideas, weekend encounters guaranteed to change your life, taking "gut" courses instead of ones you know will challenge you, bluffing at school and life instead of doing solid work, marrying early as an escape from real Mayisions, getting pregnant as an evasion of already existing problems. It means that you refuse to sell your talents and aspirations short, simply to avoid conflict and confrontation. And this, in turn, means resisting the forces in society which say that people should be nice, play safe, have low professional expectations, drown in love and forget about work, live through others, and stay in the places assigned to us. It means that we insist on a life of meaningful work; insist that work be as meaningful as love and friendship in our lives. It means, therefore, the courage to be "different"; not to be continuously available to others when we need time for ourselves and our work; to be able to demand of others--parents, friends, roommates, teachers, lovers, husbands, children--that they respect our sense of purpose and our integrity as persons. ...The difference between lives lived actively, and a life of passive drifting and dispersal of energies, is an immense difference. Once we begin to feel committed to our lives, responsible to ourselves, we can never again be satisfied with the old, passive way.

1) Write an essay in which you discuss the similarities and differences between this passage from Rich's speech to the YouTube video, "I am worried about my grade".

Please sign and return by the 2- day of class
Professor Sherri Harvey
San Jose State University
English Syllabus Contract
Please read and sign
I have read the syllabus, and understand the implications for late/missing work. I will make a commitment to this class, and take full responsibility for my performance in the class. I will check email regularly and keep up with the work load. I understand the responsibilities that this class requires, and will make every effort to meet those responsibilities.
I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PROFESSOR DOES NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK WITHOUT PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS. ANY LATE PAPERS COULD RESULT IN NO CREDIT FOR THE COURSE UNLESS I CONTACT THE PROFESSOR BEFORE THE DUE DATE.
This includes the multiple drafts of the research paper and in-class essays.
IF MY CELL PHONE RINGS OR VIBRATES DURING CLASS, I WILL BRING COOKIES TO THE NEXT CLASS MEETING FOR EVERYONE IN THE CLASS. IF MY TEACHER SPOTS ME TEXTING, I MAY ALSO BE ASKED TO BRING COOKIES.
I realize that my grade will be the direct result of the effort and time I put into this class, and I will do my best to earn the highest grade I can. I ALSO REALIZE THAT MY FINAL GRADE IS A NUMERICAL CALCULATION OF THE GRADES I RECEIVE ON MY WORK. After the last day of class, there is nothing I can to do improve my grade. I will do my best before then to assure my success.
(Your signature)

Your name:
Contact Info:
Date:
Additional info: