

First Year Writing Section 46 ENGL 1A

Fall 2022 3 Unit(s) 08/19/2022 to 12/06/2022 Modified 08/18/2022

Contact Information

Instructor:	Amna Yusuf
Office Location:	FOB 206
Telephone:	N/A
Email:	amna.yusuf@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 12-1 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday/ Thursday 12 pm - 1:15 pm
Classroom:	Boccardo Business Center 130
GE/SJSU Studies Category	English 1A satisfies Written Communication I, GE Area A2
Prerequisite:	Completion of Reflection on College Writing

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

Course Thematic Inquiry: Communication, Social Media, and Social Justice

In this course, we will explore what communication looks like in the 21st century. Does a digital discourse impact our language, literacy, and writing? How does social media impact our identities? How does that identity play a role in our usage of social media? Do culture and community impact language and writing when using online platforms? We will also explore the relationship between social media, civic engagement, and social justice; how does social media shape our perceptions, behavior, and choices regarding social causes and social issues? To start thinking about answering these questions, we will use various social media platforms and genres to navigate digital writing and rhetorical situations in various writing contexts, for different purposes, and miscellaneous audiences.

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.

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>).

Class Participation

Participation is essential and required for this course. You are expected to arrive to class on time and be prepared to do the following: ask and answer questions; engage in respectful and thoughtful discussions with your peers and instructor and contribute your own ideas and opinions. You must demonstrate a consistent effort daily to learn with your seminar cohorts. Class **Participation is 15% of your final grade**; your participation points will be calculated by your active presence, preparation, and participation during the weekly class discussions, in-class assignments, peer review workshops, discussion boards on Canvas, and class presentations.

As in any diverse environment, sensitive and challenging topics may sometimes come up in discussion. If faced with such a situation, I ask that you listen well and take your time to respond. Patience and empathy are the foundations of this course. Behavior that threatens the learning environment and the safety of the classroom will not be tolerated.

Note: During the first week of class, we will discuss classroom protocol in greater depth. Our community-developed expectations will guide our behavior and interactions for the remainder of the semester.

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

You will not need to buy any text books. Instead we will use free online resources.

- *Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing* Volume 1, 2 & 3. <https://writingspaces.org/>. This is a free online textbook. We will be reading a few essays from it online.
- Free online resources such as Owl.[Purdue](https://www.purdue.edu/owl/) . [Excelsior Online Writing Lab](https://www.excelsior.edu/online-writing-lab/), (<https://owl.excelsior.edu/>) and [SJSU writing center handouts](https://www.sjsu.edu/writing-center/handouts/) websites.
- Additional texts, excerpts, and videos will be posted to Canvas or distributed in class. Students will need to check their email and visit Canvas frequently for updates.

Course Requirements and Assignments

There are three major assignments in this course.

1. Personal Narrative Essay: This is a 1000 word essay in which students will explore their social media usage and how it has impacted their identity.
2. Visual Analysis Essay: This is a 1500 word essay in which students will write a visual, rhetorical, or genre analysis of a multimodal text.
3. Multimodal Group Presentation: In groups of 3-4, students will create a multimodal group presentations for a social issue, movement, or cause of their choice. Students will also write an individual report to accompany this group project.

Apart from these, there will be twelve Reader Responses due throughout the semester in which students will practically apply their homework readings to respond to a prompt. These are 250-300 words each.

There will be weekly in-class writing, both as individual students and as groups. Some of these will go towards class participation points. These will be 150-250 words.

Overall, class participation and in-class activities will make up 20% of the student final grade. Without active class participation, you will not be able to get a grade above B-.

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.

✓ Grading Information

ENGL 1A is a 3-unit course. That means we are signing up to do a minimum of 9 hours of study per week just for this class. 2½ hours will be class time. The remaining 7½ hours a week, you will work on your own or with your peers to prepare for class and complete reading and writing assignments. I have designed the work using this math to guide us. I will refer to it often to help you manage this workload over the semester.

In this course, the cumulative learning experience is emphasized over individual aspects. Your goal is to apprentice yourself within our writing community and engage in a designed learning experience guided by a faculty mentor. The guidelines below spell out the terms of your work with the community and the expectations and standards. This agreement will allow you to advance your own educational goals and measure your own learning outcomes; it also expects you to contribute your learning to support the learning of others.

Important: English 1A is a course in which students must earn a C- to get the Area A2 GE credit toward the degree. Students who do not earn at least a C- in English 1A must retake it.

To ensure that you will achieve a passing grade you must

- Complete at least 75 % of the work.
- Submit your work on time.
- Participate and engage in class in keeping with the spirit of the collaborative learning process.

General Grading Rubric

- An "A" writing assignment 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" writing assignment 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" writing assignment 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" writing assignment 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" writing assignment does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment.

Important: With each major assignment, I will provide a detailed grading rubric attached with the assignment sheet.

Late Policy:

I value punctuality and responsibility. Weekly assignments such as in-class participation points, workshops, Reader Responses, etc., cannot be made up unless there is an extraordinary situation at your end. I will accept late essays only if you inform me in advance with a valid extenuating circumstance. If there is one thing I have learned during the pandemic, it is to expect the unexpected; life happens! Please do talk to me if you have a setback, so we can work out an agreement that works for both of us.

Grading Breakdown

Assignment	Word Count	Due Date	Points	Final Grade %	CLO
15 Reader Responses	250-300	Weekly	150)10 points each	15%	1,3
In -Class Writing/ Discussions	15-250	Weekly	100 (5-10 points each)	10%	1,3,4
Narrative Essay	1000	9/29	200	20%	1,2,3,4
Analysis Essay	1500	11/1	200	20%	1,2,3,4
Multimodal Presentations +Individual Report	750	12/1	150+50	15% + 5%	1,2,3,4
Final Portfolio Reflection Essay+Annotated Bibliography	600	12/8	75+25	10%	1,2,3,4
Class Participation		Weekly	50	5%	4
Total	Approx 8000		1000	100	

Breakdown

Grade	Percentage	Points	Grade	Percentage	Points
A+	96-100%	960-1000	C+	76-79%	760-799
A	93-95%	930-959	C	73-75%	730-759
A-	90-92%	900-929	C-	70-72%	700-729
B+	86-89%	860-899	D+	66-69%	660-699
B	83-85%	830-849	D	63-65%	630-659
B-	80-82%	800-829	D-	60-62%	600-629

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf\)](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 [Syllabus Information web page \(https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php\)](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

Below is the tentative schedule for the class this semester. Please keep in mind that there may be changes made to it throughout the semester. I will notify you about any changes during class, as well as through Canvas. **Additional readings will be posted on Canvas each week. All the readings and work due are to be finished BEFORE you come to the class that day.**

The topics in green are the focus area for that week.

Week	Date	Readings and Assignments	Due
------	------	--------------------------	-----

1	Tues 8/23	Introductions, Syllabus, Class Protocols	
1	Thur 8/25	Read: What is Academic Writing. (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=204), So You've Got a Writing Assignment, Now What? (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=219).	
2	Tues 8/30	Personal into the Academic Read "I need you to say I" (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/i-need-you-to-say-i-why-first-person-is-important-in-college-writing/), and Handout for Narrative Essays (http://newdev.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/docs/handouts/Personal%20Narrative%20Essays.pdf).	RR#1
2	Thur 9/1	Read Weaving Personal Experience into Academic Writing. (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/weaving-personal-experience-into-academic-writing/).	Proposal Essay #1
3	Tues 9/6	Narration and Description Read Storytelling, Narration and the Who I am Story. (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/storytelling-narration-and-the-who-i-am-story/), Read Who we are Matters in Our Writing. (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/workin-languages-who-we-are-matters-in-our-writing/).	RR#2
3	Thurs 9/8	Read Writing with Force and Flair. (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/writing-with-force-and-flair/).	RR#3
4	Tues 9/13	Sentence, Paragraph, and Essay Construction Watch SJSU Writing Workshop Videos. (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpFC61a1FFT1JpayAOp5gXM7ufxV5wltK).	RR#4
4	Thur 9/15	Owl.Purdue Paragraph (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/academic_writing/paragraphs_and_paragraphing/index.html), Owl.Purdue. Sentences (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/academic_writing/sentence_variety/index.html).	
5	Tues 9/20	Process: Prewriting, Writing, and Peer Review Read: How to Give Meaningful Peer Response (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=378). Classwork: Workshop	Rough Draft Essay #1
5	Thur 9/22	Read Making Choices to Develop your Writing. (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/from-topic-to-presentation-making-choices-to-develop-your-writing/).	
6	Tues 9/27	Revision and Editing Read Using Feedback On your Writing. (https://writingspaces.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/grauman.pdf). Classwork: Workshop	Full Draft Essay #1
6	Thurs 9/29	Classwork: Reflection Paragraph	Essay#1
7	Tues 10/4	Genre and the Rhetorical Situation Read Murder Rhetorically. (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=148).	RR#5
7	Thur 10/6	Read Make your "Move": Writing in Genres. (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=790).	Proposal Essay #2
8	Tues 10/ 11	Classic Rhetoric: Ethos, Pathos, Logos Read Three Ways to Persuade (https://textrhet.files.wordpress.com/2019/03/three-ways-to-persuade-article-erwc3-final-1a.pdf).	RR#6

8	Thur 10/13	Read Navigating Genres (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/navigating-genres/) and Using Rhetorical Strategies for Persuasion . (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/academic_writing/establishing_arguments/rhetorical_strategies.html)	RR#7
9	Tues 10/18	Visual Analysis and Rhetorical Analysis Read Understanding Visual Rhetoric (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/understanding-visual-rhetoric/).	
9	Thur 10/20	Read Backpacks vs. Briefcases: Steps Towards Rhetorical Analysis . (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/backpacks-vs-briefcases-steps-toward-rhetorical-analysis/).	RR#8
10	Tues 10/ 25	Genre Analysis Read: Visual Analysis , (https://owlcation.com/humanities/How-to-Write-a-Visual-Analysis-Paper). Film Analysis (https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/film-analysis/), Genre Analysis (https://pressbooks.howardcc.edu/essentials/chapter/checklist-for-identifying-genres/). Classwork: peer workshop	Rough Draft Essay #2
10	Thur 10/27	Read Four Things Social Media Can Teach You . (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=753).	RR#9
11	Tues 11/1	Style, Structure, and Organization Read: Organizing your Analysis (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/visual_rhetoric/analyzing_visual_documents/organizing_your_analysis.html). Classwork: peer Workshop	Full Draft Essay #2
11	Thur 11/3	Read Grammar, Rhetoric, Style (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=393). Classwork: Reflection Paragraph	Essay#2
12	Tues 11/8	Multimodal Compositions Watch video on multimodality . (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljUY02knyYI) Read Ten Things to know About Multimodality . (https://community.macmillanlearning.com/t5/bits-blog/ten-things-to-know-about-multimodal-composing/ba-p/2848).	Proposal Group Presentations
12	Thurs 11/10	Read Intro and Strategies for Multimodal Composing . (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=384).	RR#10
13	Tues 11/15	Collaborative Work Read Four Things Social Media Can Teach you about College Writing . (https://writingspaces.org/past-volumes/four-things-social-media-can-teach-you-about-college-writing-and-one-thing-it-cant/).	RR#11
13	Thur 11/17	Watch Visual Rhetoric . (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vJvivIzkDg) Read Photo Essays . (https://www.photocontestinsider.com/photo-essay-examples/).	RR#12
14	Tues 11/ 22	Reflection Writing Read Eyeball to Eyeball (https://writingspaces.org/?page_id=156).	RR#13
14	Thur 11/24	No class- Thanksgiving Holiday	
15	Tues 11/29	Preparing for the Final Portfolio	RR#14
15	Thur 12/1	Group Presentations	Individual Report + Multimodal Presentations
16	Tues 12/6	Group Presentations	

17	Thur 12/8	Final Portfolio due @ 12 pm	
----	--------------	-----------------------------	--