

San José State University
ENGL 1A:First-Year Writing, Section 80
FALL 2022

Course and Contact Information

Class Days/Time: 9-10:15am PT
Tuesday and Thursday

Classroom: Clark Hall 225B

Instructor: Helen Meservey

Email: Canvas message and/or helen.meservey@sjsu.edu

Office Location: [Faculty Office Building 114]
Virtual via Zoom for Fall 2022!

Office Hours: 12-2pm Wednesdays (except 9/21 and 10/26)
and by appointment

Telephone: 408.924.4323 (message only)

Canvas: <http://sjsu.instructure.com>

Course Description

ENGL 1A is an introductory writing course designed to help you understand the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication. Through the interpretation and analysis of texts, you will learn to think clearly and write effectively as you give form and coherence to complex ideas. You will explore writing for various audiences and rhetorical situations.

Through a series of integrated reading, writing, and oral assignments, students engage complex issues that require critical thinking and argumentation. Students must demonstrate the ability to write accurate, coherent, and thoughtful argumentative essays and to integrate academic source material into their writing. To this end, instruction will focus on strategies for organization, development, research, and revision.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Read actively and rhetorically.
2. Perform the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing) and demonstrate awareness of said performance.
3. Articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals.
4. Integrate your ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres.
5. Demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing.

Course Texts

On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction, by William Zinsser, available via our Canvas course site; a print version of this book is available at Spartan Bookstore and elsewhere. Note: Campus bookstore has 30th anniversary edition, but you may use any of the many earlier editions.

Excelsior Online Writing Lab, <https://owl.excelsior.edu>

Purdue Online Writing Lab, <https://owl.purdue.edu>

Other readings as assigned

Technology Requirements

Canvas: We use Canvas throughout this course.

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

Username: your SJSU 9-digit ID number.

Password: Self-generated password for your SJSUOne account

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

Zoom: Given the ongoing presence and threat of COVID-19, our course zoom link is intended to accommodate English 1A students who must attend class virtually due to virus exposure or other illness. Be advised that the link is ad hoc and that you must arrange virtual attendance with the instructor prior to class. Please note that the Zoom links for class and for my virtual office are different!

Course Requirements and Assignments

Specific details for each assignment below will be posted to Canvas.

- 3 genre essays
- 3 reading responses
- homework and participation
- 1 self- reflection essay
- 1 portfolio

Total point value for the course is 1,000. Course grades are calculated according to the scale below:

Assignment	Total Words	Total Points	% Grade
Genre Essay 1	1,000 (plus revisions)	100	10
Genre Essay 2	1,000 (plus revisions)	150	15
Genre Essay 3	1,000 (plus revisions)	150	15
3 Reading Responses	1,500	225	22.5
Homework and Participation	NA	275	27.5
Self-Reflection and Portfolio	NA	100	10

Course grade ranges

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

Grading Policy

To receive full credit, essays and other assignments must be submitted on time on the posted due date—note deadlines included in assignment details. ***Please be advised that no unexcused late work will be accepted. If you cannot make a deadline, you must contact me BEFORE THE DUE DATE.***

Peer workshops are mandatory (see course schedule): if you miss a mandatory workshop day or fail to prepare drafts for workshop, your grade for that essay will be scaled down half a letter grade.

Classroom Protocol

Writing can be a solitary enterprise, but the critical thinking and habits of mind that go into such work can be developed and enriched in community. Thus, it is imperative that you attend every class and participate in class activities and discussions. Class participation entails: (1) demonstrating that you’ve completed the readings, (2) contributing to discussions, and (3) completing in-class assignments. Electronic resources such as laptops,

tablets, and phones may be used during class only to compose select assignments, or access course materials on Canvas. Please be sure that social media and other distractions not related to our course pursuits are turned OFF during class.

University Policies

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

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES

Statement of Plagiarism: The English Departments emphasizes that we adhere strictly to the rules against plagiarism as set forth in the SJSU Catalog. The Catalog defines plagiarism as follows:

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

Should a student plagiarize in any ENGL 1 course, the instructor will report the student to the University's Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Also, points will be deducted from the assignment/course depending on the severity of the policy violation.

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

SJSU Peer Connections

Please see the Peer Connections web page [<https://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2022 semester.

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while learning to successfully navigate their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of these 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 small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, Peer Connections offers consultation with mentors 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 topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is available in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage, corner of 10th and San Fernando Street); on 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall; and in Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit the Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

Please see the SJSU Writing Center web page [<https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2022 semester.

The SJSU Writing Center now has two locations: Writing Specialists conduct drop-in tutoring sessions in Clark Hall, Suite 126 and hold regularly scheduled tutoring sessions on the second floor in the MLK Library. 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 at <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. Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.

SJSU Counseling Services

Please see the SJSU CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) web page [<https://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/>] for virtual support during the Fall 2022 semester.

The SJSU Counseling Services is located in the Student Wellness Center, 3rd Floor, Room 300B, (corner of 7th and San Carlos St., across from the Event Center). 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 Counseling Services website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

ENGLISH 1A, Section 80

Fall 2022 Course Schedule

Schedule below subject to change; any updates will be communicated with fair notice in class and via Canvas.

NB: All drafts of genre essays are due before class (9am PT) on the due dates listed. Discussion Posts, Quizzes, and Reading Responses are due 11:59pm Friday the week they are assigned. For example, Discussion Post 1 is due 11:59pm PT Friday, August 26.

Week	Date	Tuesday	Thursday
1	8/23-25	Course introduction	Discussion Post 1 (10)
Clarity is king.			
2	8/30-9/1	Rhetorical situations	Reading Response 1 (75)
3	9/6-8	GELO 1 (10) Grammar point 1 (regarding verbs) Paragraph development	Quiz 1 (15)
4	9/13-15	Peer Review Workshop 1	Discussion Post 2 (10)
Writing is rewriting.			
5	9/20-22	Grammar point 2 (regarding prepositions) Proofreading	Essay 1 (100) Library Research: MLK Library Rm 219
6	9/27-29	GELO 2 (10) Grammar point 3 (regarding punctuation)	Quiz 2 (15)
7	10/4-6	Grammar point 4 (regarding sentence structures)	Discussion Post 3 (10)
Verbs are boss.			
8	10/11-13	Halftime!	Reading Response 2 (75)
9	10/18-20	GELO 3 (10) Grammar point 5 (regarding pronouns)	Quiz 3 (15) Asynchronous class

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
10	10/25-27	Peer Review Workshop 2	Discussion Post 4 (10)
11	11/1-3	Grammar point 6 (regarding modifiers)	Essay 2 (150)
Writers write.			
12	11/8-10	GELO 4 (10) Grammar point 7 (regarding parallelism)	Quiz 4 (15)
13	11/15-17	Grammar point 8	Discussion Post 5 (10)
Writers read.			
14	11/22-24	Peer Review Workshop 3 (virtual) Asynchronous class	Thanksgiving Holiday Campus Closed Reading Response 3 (75)
15	11/29-12/1		Quiz 5 (15)
16	12/6	Last class Essay 3 (150) GELO 5 (10)	
17	12pm PT Friday 12/9	DEADLINE: Self-Reflection Essay and Portfolio (100) 12pm (noon!) PDT Friday, December 9, 2022 NB: No class meeting is scheduled for this date.	
Congratulations! Enjoy your year-end break.			