

First Year Writing Section 37 ENGL 1A

Spring 2023 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 01/24/2023

Section 37 (27738) meets 12pm - 1:15pm on Mondays and Wednesdays in Boccardo Business Center Room 123.

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Michael Tod Edgerton

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Website: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82581595803?pwd=WXdzQWR3SGRlc1JXTExxcmdKZ1JBQT09> (<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82581595803?pwd=WXdzQWR3SGRlc1JXTExxcmdKZ1JBQT09>)

(Passcode: 307320).

The above website is for my Zoom office hours (12-1pm Tues/Thurs). Note that you will be placed in a waiting room until I can let you in; please be patient. It's generally best to make a specific appointment to set aside that time. If you need to set an appointment outside of these windows, I'll be happy to find a time that we both can make it--just email me with some alternate time/date options and let me know what you need to discuss.

Office Hours

Tuesday, Thursday, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, on Zoom (live link above, under "Website")

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82581595803?pwd=WXdzQWR3SGRlc1JXTExxcmdKZ1JBQT09>

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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.

Participation: This course is primarily run as a discussion seminar and collaborative learning workshop. There will be many in-class-only assignments which you will not be able to make up if you miss class. Not mere physical presence but active listening, participation, and engagement are required to get the most out of the course (and to earn the highest possible grade).

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>).

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 \(https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php\)](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 of our readings will be PDF files and online texts made available on our Canvas course site (go to the Canvas log in at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>, or go through your SJSU "One" resource page at <https://one.sjsu.edu>). This course requires a great deal of reading and writing, and while I will give you time in class to work on some assignments, this time is not in lieu of, but *in addition* to the six hours per week SJSU expects you to spend on homework for each of your three-credit courses.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Your three major projects will be 1) a personal, narrative essay; 2) an argumentative, opinion essay on a contemporary issue ("op-ed"); and 3) an arts and entertainment review of a movie, album, or other A&E work.

Grading Information

Grade Categories and Percentages, Word Counts, and General Education Learning Outcomes

Assignment/Category	Grade %	Word Count	GELO
Personal Essay	20%	1,000-1,500	1-5
Op-Ed Essay	20%	1,000-1,500	1-5
Arts and Entertainment Review	20%	1,000-1,500	1-5
All exercises and assignments, essay drafts, quizzes, etc.	30%	Variable	1-5
Final Portfolio with Reflective Essay and Appendix	5%	Variable	1-3 and 5
Participation	5%	NA	NA

Letter Grade Definitions by Percentage

Grade	Percentage
<i>A plus</i>	96 to 100%
<i>A</i>	93 to 95%
<i>A minus</i>	90 to 92%
<i>B plus</i>	86 to 89 %
<i>B</i>	83 to 85%
<i>B minus</i>	80 to 82%
<i>C plus</i>	76 to 79%

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

IMPORTANT POLICY NOTES:

- This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.
- NO late work or make-up assignments will be accepted without good reason, and no extra credit will be given, as a rule. Exceptions may be made at my discretion, and late work, if accepted, may be penalized.
- I reserve the right to add or change assignments, including pop quizzes, change the syllabus schedule, etc. at my discretion. I will notify you in class and through email when/if I do so.

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

When	Topic	Notes
		See the current Canvas Modules page (listed beneath "Home" and before "Announcements" on the menu to the left) for all course assignments, which will be published on an ongoing basis throughout the semester.