

# Critical Thinking and Writing Section 13

## ENGL 2

Spring 2023 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 01/26/2023

### Contact Information

	Section 13	Section 18
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	7:30-8:45am PT Tuesday and Thursday	9-10:15am PT Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Classroom:</b>	Clark Hall 225A	Clark Hall 225A
<b>Instructor:</b>	Helen Meservey	
<b>Email:</b>	Canvas message and/or <a href="mailto:helen.meservey@sjsu.edu">helen.meservey@sjsu.edu</a>	
<b>Office Location:</b>	[Faculty Office Building 114] <a href="https://www.google.com/url?q=https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82450343981?pwd%3DdlFWZkRNdCtuc1VhS1VYUUY3UWtLdz09&amp;sa=D&amp;source=calendar&amp;ust=1674681015622492&amp;usq=AOvVaw3qq52e_twf6uvxAgG">Virtual via Zoom (https://www.google.com/url?q=https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82450343981?pwd%3DdlFWZkRNdCtuc1VhS1VYUUY3UWtLdz09&amp;sa=D&amp;source=calendar&amp;ust=1674681015622492&amp;usq=AOvVaw3qq52e_twf6uvxAgG)</a> for Spring 2023	
<b>Office Hours:</b>	12-1pm Wednesdays (except 2/22, 3/8 and 4/5) and by appointment	
<b>Telephone:</b>	408.924.4323 (during office hours only)	
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	ENGL 1A, 1A-F/S (with a grade of C- or better)	
<b>Canvas:</b>	<a href="http://sjsu.instructure.com">http://sjsu.instructure.com</a>	

### Course Description and Requisites

English 2 is a course that focuses on the relationship between language and logic in composing arguments. Students learn various methods of effective reasoning and appropriate rhetorical strategies to help them invent, demonstrate, and express arguments clearly, logically, and persuasively.

GE Area(s): A3. Critical Thinking and Writing

Prerequisite(s): Completion of GE Areas A1 and A2 each with grades of C- or better.

Note(s): ENGL 2 is not open to students who successfully completed ENGL 1B.

Letter Graded

## \* Classroom Protocols

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### ENGL 2

This course is open to all students needing to fulfill GE Area A3 (Critical Thinking). It is not open to students who have successfully completed ENGL 1B.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1A or Stretch English (with a grade of C- or better)

### Course Content

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading, Writing, and oral 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 ethnicities, genders, and socio-economic classes.

Writing: You will write a series of essays informed by research and articulating fully developed arguments about complex issues. Assignments emphasize those skills and activities in writing and thinking that produce the persuasive argument and the critical essay, each of which demands analysis, interpretation, and evaluation. Writing assignments give you repeated practice in prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

Logic: You will learn methods of argument analysis, both rhetorical and logical, that will allow you to identify logical structures (such as warrants, evidence, qualification, rebuttal; enthymemes and syllogisms) and distinguish common logical fallacies.

Reading: In addition to being writing intensive, ENGL 2 is also a reading course. You will read a variety of critical and argumentative texts to help develop your skills for understanding the logical structure of argumentative writing.

Oral: You will be presenting your arguments orally to class both as an individual and as part of a group.

### 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.

### Time Commitment

Success in ENGL 2 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 2, 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.

## 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

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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://www.sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php>).

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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### GE Area A3: Critical Thinking and Writing

Area A3 courses develop students' understanding of the relationship of language to logic. By engaging students in complex issues requiring critical thinking and effective argumentation, A3 courses develop students' abilities to research and analyze important topics and to construct their own arguments on issues that generate meaningful public debate and deliberation. Courses include explicit instruction and practice in inductive and deductive reasoning as well as identification of formal and informal fallacies of language and thought. Completion of Area A2 (Written Communication I) with a minimum grade of C- is a prerequisite for enrollment in Area A3. Completion of Area A3 with a grade of C- or better is a CSU graduation requirement.

### GE Area A3 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area A3 course, students should be able to:

1. locate, interpret, evaluate, and synthesize evidence in a comprehensive way, including through library research; and integrate research findings into oral and written arguments through appropriate citation and quotation;
2. use a range of rhetorical and logical strategies to articulate and explain their positions on complex issues in dialogue with other points of view;
3. identify and critically evaluate the assumptions in and the contexts of arguments; and
4. use inductive and deductive logic to construct valid, evidence-supported arguments and draw valid conclusions.

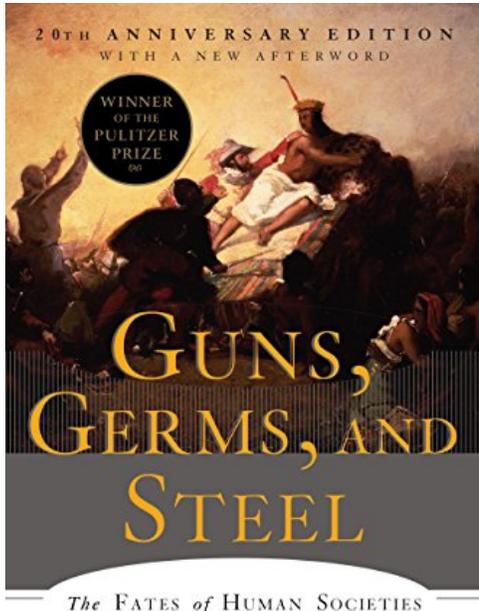
**Writing Practice:** Students will write a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

## Course Materials

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First published in the United States by W.W.Norton and Company, on March 1 1997, *Guns, Germs and Steel* was initially subtitled 'The Fates of Human Societies.' Within a few months, this subtitle had evolved into 'A Short History of Everybody for the Last 13,000 Years.'

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction, the Rhone Poulenc Science Book Prize, along with three other international literary prizes, *Guns, Germs and Steel* has been translated into 25 languages and has sold millions of copies around the world.



<https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/files/search?>

JARED DIAMOND

[preview=71561938&search\\_term=jared](#))

Multiple options are available for reading or listening to this book online. [Here](#) (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-full-text>) is a small sampling.

Other required and optional reading materials are provided via Canvas, and research materials can be accessed through MLK Library.

## Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies

**Author:** Jared Diamond

**Publisher:** W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

**ISBN:** 978-0-393-31755-8

**Availability:** Campus Bookstore and elsewhere

**Price:** varies

This book is widely available and accessible online, including [here \(https://www.docdroid.net/uUSO3JN/231929732-jared-diamond-guns-germs-steel-pdf\)](https://www.docdroid.net/uUSO3JN/231929732-jared-diamond-guns-germs-steel-pdf):

<https://www.docdroid.net/uUSO3JN/231929732-jared-diamond-guns-germs-steel-pdf>

and [here \(https://archive.org/stream/fp\\_Jared\\_Diamond-Guns\\_Germs\\_and\\_Steel/Jared\\_Diamond-Guns\\_Germs\\_and\\_Steel\\_djvu.txt\)](https://archive.org/stream/fp_Jared_Diamond-Guns_Germs_and_Steel/Jared_Diamond-Guns_Germs_and_Steel_djvu.txt)

[https://archive.org/stream/fp\\_Jared\\_Diamond-Guns\\_Germs\\_and\\_Steel/Jared\\_Diamond-Guns\\_Germs\\_and\\_Steel\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/fp_Jared_Diamond-Guns_Germs_and_Steel/Jared_Diamond-Guns_Germs_and_Steel_djvu.txt)

## National Geographic documentary of Guns, Germs, and Steel

See [PBS \(https://www.pbs.org/gunsgermsteel/index.html\)](https://www.pbs.org/gunsgermsteel/index.html) site for details.

[Episode i: Out of Eden \(https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-1-slash-3-1-03\)](https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-1-slash-3-1-03)

[Episode Two : Conquest \(https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-2-slash-3-1-03\)](https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-2-slash-3-1-03)

## ☰ Course Requirements and Assignments

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

- 4 reading responses
- 1 team project
- homework and participation
- 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
Reading Response 1	750-1,000 (plus revisions)	125	12.5
Reading Response 2	750-1,000 (plus revisions)	125	12.5
Reading Response 3	750-1,000 (plus revisions)	125	12.5
Reading Response 4	750-1,000 (plus revisions)	125	12.5
Team Project	750-1,000 (plus revisions)	200	20
Homework and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Classroom activities</li><li>◦ Workshops</li><li>◦ CLO reflections</li><li>◦ Discussion posts</li></ul>	Varies	200	20
Reflection and Portfolio	500-600 (plus revisions)	100	10

Total	5,000-6,600 (plus homework)	1,000	100
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## ✓ Grading Information

### Breakdown

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

## 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) (<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

ENGLISH 2, Sections 13 and 18

Spring 2023 Course Schedule

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

*All Reading Responses and Discussion Posts are due 11:59pm Friday on the weeks they are assigned.*

*All other homework and reading assignments should be completed by the date on which they are listed.*

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
1	1/24-26	<p><i>Pre-instruction activities:</i></p> <p><i>no class meeting</i></p>	<p>Course introduction:</p> <p>What is critical thinking? What's the relationship between critical thinking and writing (per course title?)</p> <p>READ</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Syllabus</li> <li>2. Start Here module on Canvas</li> <li>3. "It's all about the reader"</li> </ol> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Discussion Post 1</b></p>
2	1/31-2/2	<p>Context</p> <p><i>Guns, Germs, and Steel (GGS):</i> What is Jared Diamond's contention? Why does it take almost 450 pages to present it?</p> <p>READ</p> <p>GGS, Preface and Prologue, pp.9-25</p> <p>VIEW</p> <p><a href="#">Guns, Germs, and Steel video: 1/3 (1:03)</a></p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GGS</i>, Preface and Prologue, pp.25-31</p>
3	2/7-2/9	<p>Summary</p> <p>How does Diamond break down the problem?</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GGS</i>, Ch. 1, pp.35-43</p> <p>"Editing: Paragraphs and Sentences"</p> <p><b>SUBMIT: Peer Review Workshop 1:</b></p> <p><b>Reading Response 1: First Draft</b></p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GGS</i>, Ch. 1, pp.43-51</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday):</b></p> <p><b>Reading Response 1: Final Draft</b></p>
4	2/14-2/16	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GGS</i>, Ch. 2, pp.52-64</p> <p><b>SUBMIT: Reflection 1: CLO 4</b></p>	<p>Library Research class in our regular classroom, Clark 225A, with Librarian Jane Dodge</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GGS</i>, Ch. 3, pp.65-78</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Discussion Post 2</b></p>

5	2/21- 2/23	<p>Analysis</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 4, pp.81-88</p> <p>"Integrating Print Sources Effectively"</p> <p>VIEW</p> <p><a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-2-slash-3-1-03">Guns, Germs, and Steel video: 2/3 (1:03)</a> (<a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-2-slash-3-1-03">https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-2-slash-3-1-03</a>)</p> <p><b>SUBMIT: Peer Review Workshop 2: Reading Response 2: First Draft</b></p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 5, pp.89-99</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Reading Response 2: Final Draft</b></p>
6	2/28- 3/2	<p>Rhetorical strategies and appeals</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 6, pp.100-108</p> <p>"Rhetorical Strategies"</p> <p><b>SUBMIT: Reflection 2: CLO 3</b></p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 7, 109-118</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Discussion Post 3</b></p>
7	3/7- 3/9	<p><u>Synchronous</u> class. No meeting in Clark 225A.</p> <p><u>Virtual</u> Peer Review Workshop 3:</p> <p>Reading Response 3: First Draft</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 7, pp.118-125</p> <p>"Editing: Diction"</p>	<p><u>Asynchronous</u> Class. No meeting in Clark 225A:</p> <p>See Canvas for assignment.</p> <p>VIEW</p> <p><a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-3-slash-3-1-04?module_item_id=14174333">Guns, Germs, and Steel video: 3/3 (1:04)</a> (<a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-3-slash-3-1-04?module_item_id=14174333">https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1561430/pages/guns-germs-and-steel-video-3-slash-3-1-04?module_item_id=14174333</a>)</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Reading Response 3: Final Draft</b></p>
8	3/14- 3/16	<p>Evidence</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 8, pp.126-137</p> <p><b>SUBMIT: Reflection 3: CLO 1</b></p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 8, pp.137-150</p> <p><b>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Discussion Post 4</b></p>
9	3/21- 3/23	<p>Reasoning</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 9, pp.151-160</p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 9, pp.160-168</p>

Week 10: March 27-31

Spring Break

READ: *GG&S*, Ch. 10, pp. 169-186

11	4/4-4/6	<p>Counterargument</p> <p>What criticisms have been made about Diamond's conclusions?</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 11, pp.187-198</p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 11, pp.198-205</p>
12	4/11-4/13	<p>Synthesis</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 12, pp.206-218</p> <p>"Editing and Revising"</p> <p>SUBMIT: Peer Review Workshop 4: Reading Response 4: First Draft</p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 12 pp.218-228</p> <p>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Reading Response 4: Final Draft</p>
13	4/18-4/20	<p>Synthesis</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 13, pp. 229-241</p> <p>SUBMIT: Reflection 4: CLO 5</p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 13, pp. 241-253</p> <p>SUBMIT (11:59pm Friday): Discussion Post 5</p>
14	4/25-4/27	<p><u>Asynchronous</u> Class. No meeting in Clark 225A.</p> <p>See Canvas for assignment.</p> <p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 14, pp. 254-270</p>	<p>READ</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Ch. 14, pp. 270-280</p> <p>SUBMIT: Reflection 5: CLO 2</p>
15	5/2-5/4	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Selection from Part IV</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Selection from Part IV</p>
16	5/9-5/11	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Selection from Part IV</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>GG&amp;S</i>, Selection from Part IV</p> <p>Last Class! Cookies!</p>

17	Friday 5/19	<p data-bbox="618 111 1190 136"><b>DEADLINE: Final Reflection Essay and Portfolio due via Canvas</b></p> <p data-bbox="748 163 1057 189"><b>11:59pm PT Friday, May 19, 2023</b></p>
		<p data-bbox="824 247 977 273"><b>Congratulations!</b></p> <p data-bbox="781 300 1021 325">Enjoy your year-end break.</p>