

First Year Writing Section 38

ENGL 1A

Spring 2025 In Person 3 Unit(s) 01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025 Modified 01/21/2025

Course Information

Our theme for this course is focused on ways poverty deters successes for families in the US. We will explore how growing up poor leads to oppression and inequality for many that can impact their entire lives. We will investigate how poverty fuels inequality while giving you the opportunity to connect what you learn to your own life experiences and what you know about society today. We will investigate what makes arguments effective and how rhetorical devices are deliberately being used in writing and digital communications. I hope this course helps you develop a voice that can be used to bring about change and help others care about the issues that are important to you.

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

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.

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)

General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs):

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

Required Reader

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

This is available on Amazon for \$11.48.

You will not need to purchase an MLA handbook. Instead, we will use the Purdue Owl website, officially titled the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (MLA Style Guide - link will be posted on canvas) and some select readings that are placed in our canvas shell. I will require that you learn to locate appropriate texts and readings from The New York Times, The Washington Post, and other online news outlets.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignments and Points

Process Assignments (15x20)=300

Rough Drafts = 75 (3x25)

Peer Revision = 75 (3x25 for each)

Reading Response and Analysis: Essay 1 = 100 points

Reading Response and Analysis: Essay 2 =100 points

Major Research Synthesis Argument Essay 3 = Essay=150

Annotated Bib Assignment=100

Remix Project and Rhetorical Analysis Essay =100

Total = 1000

Late Assignment Policy

Not having your work done on time will disrupt your writing process and the sequence of assignment which are scaffold to help you think, produce and revise. This course will emphasize the writing process and each assignment is contingent on the next. I have automatically issued each of you one late pass. This means that you can be up to 2 days late with the assignment of your choice without questions asked or penalty. After that late pass has been used, all late assignments will receive a 10% percent grade deduction for each 24 hours it is late. I will not accept assignments even with the above penalties that are 14 days late. I will not allow you to submit late assignments that were never completed during the last few weeks of the semester. Unfortunately, students try to do this every semester.

Process Assignments

In Class Assignments are the keys to doing well in this course. The points attached adhere to the theory that process should be valued over the final product or essay. There are many scholars within the composition field that argue that this is how students should learn writing. On that note, they are worth a good portion of the points you can earn for this course. These assignments are expected to be quality and your best effort. They will be graded, and they are not just points attached to an assignment because you did it. Additionally, if I see that you do not understand the concept sparking the assignment, I will have a mini conference with you during class so I can help you. You are expected to come to each class, engage in the material with your teacher and classmates, and produce impressive work. I will be in the classroom and available to help you. Additionally, if you leave class early, you will miss the second half of the material that I will always present as we conclude for the day. Our class time will be split up into presentation of new material, assignment introduction, work time and presentation of material needed for next class and homework. There will be 15 In class assignments worth 20 points each, for a total of 300 points.

Things to remember:

If a rough draft is submitted at the same time as the final copy, it will receive no points.

If a rough draft is submitted after the final copy, it will receive no points.

If a rough draft is precisely the same as the final copy, it will receive no points.

In other words, you do not get 25 points for just clicking "submit" again!

A rough draft submitted more than 48 hours late will receive 0 points and only partial points if it is submitted within the 48 hours after peer workshop.

AI

I use an AI tracker which you will see in the submission area on Canvas. If your essay shows you used AI to write your paper, it will receive a failing grade. You can use AI for research, to brainstorm and help you come up with ideas. However, the writing you do for this class has to be your own. Do not plug the prompt into an AI app and ask it to write your paper. Out of 125 students that I taught last semester, only 16 of them failed an essay because the AI tracker on Turn It In showed they used AI. It not only shows that you used it but it also shows me where in your paper. After that first offense and failing grade, if a student uses it a second time, then I will be forced to turn them into the English Department for Plagiarism.

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own without giving proper credit to the source. For

more information on plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, please visit:
<http://conduct.sfsu.edu/plagiarism>

DISABILITY ACCESS

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/415-338-2472, video phone/415-335-7210) or by email (dprc@sfsu.edu). For more information,

✓ Grading Information

Grade Breakdown

Percentages and Final Grades

A+ = 1000 to 970 points

A = 969 to 940 points

A- = 939 to 900 points

B+ = 899 to 870 points

B = 869 to 840 points

B - = 839 to 800 points

C+ = 799 to 770 points

C = 769 to 740 points

C- = 739 to 700 points

D+ = 699 to 670 points

D = 669 to 640 points

D- = 639 to 600 points

F = 599 points or lower

University Policies

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