First Year Writing Section 58

ENGL 1A

Fall 2024   3 Unit(s)   08/21/2024 to 12/09/2024   Modified 08/20/2024

👤 Contact Information

Instructor:	Peter O'Sullivan
Office Location:	FOB 107
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Email:	peter.o'sullivan@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 10:30 - 11:30 AM Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:30 AM
Class Days/Time:	Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:15PM
Classroom:	SH 348
Prerequisites:	Directed Self-Placement
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE Area A2 Written Communication I

💻 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)](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 readings will be linked through Canvas.

≔ Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignment	Word Count	GELO
Description Process	1000	2,3,5
Description Product	1000	2,3,5
Reflection Process	1000	1-5
Reflection Product	1000	1-5
Critical Process	1000	1-5
Critical Product	1000	1-5
Group Process	1000	1-5
Group Product	1000	1-5

✔ Grading Information

This semester will be an experiment in Minimum Grading. I will grade on a four point scales, and the lowest grade a student can receive is 50%.

Criteria

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes
Process	50		All scaffolding work that leads to the final product.
Product	20		The final product. Because feedback will be generously provided on the process assignments, final product assignments will receive a grade with an explanatory rubric.
Participation	10		Quizzes and Canvas Discussions
Project	10		A group, multimodal project.
Portfolio	10		The final portfolio for English 1A assessment.

🏛 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.

📅 Course Schedule

Fall 2024 Schedule

All dates subject to change.

When	Topic	Notes
Week 1	Introduction and Tone	
Week 2	Tone Continued	
Week 3	Finish Tone. Introduce Audience	
Week 4	Audience Continued	
Week 5	Finish Audience. Introduce Purpose	
Week 6	Purpose Continued	
Week7	Finish Purpose.	

When	Topic	Notes
Week 8	Mid-Semester Reflection	
Week 9	Introduce Style	
Week 10	Style Continued	
Week 11	Finish Style	
Week 12	Group Work	
Week 13	Group Work	
Week 14	Group Work	
No Class 11/28/2023	Thanksgiving	
Week 15	Finish Group Work	
Week 16	Group Presentations	
Final 12/14/2023	Turn in Final Portfolio	