Writing Workshop

PSYC 100W

Spring 2026   Section 08   In Person   3 Unit(s)   01/22/2026 to 05/11/2026   Modified 01/08/2026

👤 Contact Information

Instructor(s): My Ngoc (Amy) Nguyen

Office Location: DMH 232

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Student Advising Hours: Monday and Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30 pm in person, Tuesday, Thursday, Fridays 8:30 - 9:30am via Zoom. Please email me for the Zoom link.

🕐 Course Information

Class Days/Time: Monday and Wednesdays 7:30 - 8:45am

Classroom: Engineering Building 338

💻 Course Description and Requisites

Practice in improvement of writing skills appropriate to the broad field of psychology, including essays, reports and scholarly communication.

Writing in the Disciplines: Satisfies the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) if passed with "C" or better.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC 1; STAT 95 or senior standing; A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of "C-" or better); completion of core GE; and upper division standing. Or Graduate or Postbaccalaureate level. Allowed Declared Majors: Psychology Majors/Minors and Behavioral Science Majors only.

Letter Graded

✳ Classroom Protocols

Course Format

Assignments will be submitted on Canvas so you will need regular access to a computer and internet connection. If you need a working laptop, please see the Student Technology Resources section below for more information.

Canvas

Course materials such as the syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas, see [Canvas Student Resources page](#) at https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/software-tools/teaching-tools/canvas/student-resources/index.php.

≣ Program Information

Writing in the Disciplines (WID) courses develop students' abilities to communicate effectively in their major course of study and in their careers. With an emphasis on critical thinking, these upper-division core courses advance students' understanding of the genres, audiences, and purposes of college writing while preparing them for successful communication in their chosen professions. Completing Writing in the Disciplines with a C or better is an SJSU graduation requirement.

Writing in the Disciplines Learning Outcomes Upon successful completion of a Writing in the Disciplines course, students should be able to:

1. explain, analyze, develop, and critique ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse;
2. organize and develop complete discipline-specific texts and other documents for both professional and general audiences, using appropriate editorial and citation standards; and
3. locate, organize, and synthesize information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose, and to communicate that purpose in writing;
4. produce discipline-specific written work that demonstrates upper-division proficiency in language use, grammar, and clarity of expression.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

📊 Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Writing in the Discipline Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes (LOs) are specific, measurable goals and objectives that students have demonstrated upon successful completion of the course. **SJSU Writing in the Discipline Learning Outcomes** are course outcomes mandated by General Education and can be found, along with additional required course content, in the [Fall 2022 GE Guidelines](#), which can be found here: https://sjsu.edu/general-education/docs/GE%20Guidelines_Oct_2022.pdf

Upon successful completion of a Writing in the Disciplines course, students should be able to:

LO 1. explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse. *This LO is satisfied by the following major assignments (there are other assignments that also address this LO): Literature Review, Research Report, Research Article Summaries and Evaluations.*

LO 2. organize and develop complete discipline-specific texts and other documents for both professional and general audiences, using appropriate editorial and citation standards. *This LO is satisfied by the following major assignments (there are other assignments that also address this LO): Literature Review, Research Report.*

LO3. locate, organize, and synthesize information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose, and to communicate that purpose in writing. *This LO is satisfied by the following major assignments (there are other assignments that also address this LO): Literature Review, Annotated References, Literature Review Outline, Research Report, Research Skills Pretest and Posttest.*

LO4. produce discipline-specific written work that demonstrates upper-division proficiency in language use, grammar, and clarity of expression. *This LO is satisfied by the following major assignments (there are other assignments that also address this LO): Literature Review, Research Report.*

📘 Course Materials

Required Readings

APA Manual

American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). ISBN: 978-1-4338-3217-8

Other Readings and Resources

APA Style Tutorial at https://extras.apa.org/apastyle/basics-7e/

Purdue Owl APA Style Resource at https://owl.purdue.edu/

SJSU Library: Psychology-specific tutorials, resources at https://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology?hs=a

Additional readings for the course will be posted on Canvas

Course Canvas Site

The course Canvas site is an online resource supplement for this course. Use of this site and the information (**Check this site regularly for course announcements, articles, assignments, and other course materials**). This site contains:

- Course Announcements

- Weekly Modules (Links to web pages that will be of use to you throughout the course)
- Handouts and articles
- Lecture slides (generally posted after lecture is presented)
- Assignment submission
- Rubrics and feedback for major assignments
- Grade roster

⋮≣ Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Requirements and Assignments

Please review the Assignment Summary sheet that appears at the end of this syllabus. Details for each assignment are provided in lectures and in assignment information sheets. Assignment information sheets (as well as other useful resources) can be found on the course Canvas site. You are expected to bring copies of each handout (paper or electronic) to the appropriate class.

The written assignments in Psychology 100W are designed to **gradually build the writing and research skills necessary to write scholarly papers** appropriate for the discipline of psychology. The major skills and associated assignments include (but are not limited to):

- **Basic skills review** (e.g., plagiarism tutorial, research skills tutorial, formatting tips in Microsoft Word/Google Docs)
- **APA style** (e.g., writing assignments)
- **Writing assignments (**including, but not limited to)
  - Dissecting a Literature Review
  - Article Summaries and Evaluations*
  - Literature Review* (*see description below*)
    - Literature Review development (*see description below*)
  - Peer Reviews
  - Brief Research Report* (*see description below*)

* Students will be given the opportunity to revise in response to instructor feedback and resubmit

Literature Review

The major paper you will be writing for this course is an *APA style literature review* (approximately 2000 - 2500 words including references; 10 or more scholarly references). The goal of a literature review is to answer a research question by describing and synthesizing relevant theory and research findings relevant to the question. You will be developing your final literature review in several assignments, including (but not limited to):

- **Research Question Assignment** in which you develop, with help from the instructor, a research question appropriate to the discipline of psychology and to the requirements of the course.
- **Annotated References Assignment** in which you identify at least 10 – 15 sources relevant to your literature review topic using databases and other resources appropriate to psychological research.

- **Outline Assignment** in which you organize the main points of your literature review and indicate which sources will be used to support the main point, and how it will do so (e.g., full summary of the article vs. "microsummary" of the article)
- **Literature Review Conferences** and **Drafts** in which you receive feedback from a variety of sources and revise your paper as needed.

Research Report

A second major paper you will be writing for this course is an *APA style research report* (approximately 1000 - 1500 words including references). The goal of a report is to describe the results of an empirical study. You will be creating a hypothetical study based on your research topic of interest, and you will write the research report as if you were the experimenter.

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final evaluation for this course is the oral presentation of students' literature review or research report. Due to time constraints, these presentations are scheduled over several class periods at the end of the semester – including during the time of the final exam. There are several submission options that you can choose from for the final presentation. **Regardless of the option you choose**, **you will need to be present in class for presentations to answer questions from your classmates**. Your presentation can be any of the following: A) Live presentation, B) Video recording of your presentation, C) Podcast, D) Documentary, E) Poem/Song/Rap, or F) Art Piece

100W Assignment Summary Sheet

Approximate Word Count*	Approximate Pages*	Points	% Course Grade	Assignment	Notes
	--	(R)	--	Research Skills Assessment Pretest	Required
	--	(R)	--	Plagiarism Tutorial	Required Take until you score 85% or better
400 – 500	4	5	2.5	Evaluating Information Sources	Fulfills "General Audience Paper" GE requirement

400 - 500	2	5	2.5	Dissecting a Literature Review	
100 - 200	1	5	2.5	Initial Reference List	
100 - 200	1	5	2.5	Research Question Assignment	
400 - 500	3 – 4	5	2.5	Annotated References Assignment	
400 - 500	3 – 4	15	7.5	Outline Assignment	
2000 – 2500	11 - 13	20 (R)	10	Literature Review (Draft)	**Required** Final draft will not be evaluated unless this draft is turned in
	--	(R)	--	Literature Review Conference	Required
			--	Literature Review (Draft 2)	For use in Peer Review Assignment
400 - 500	2 – 3	10	5	Peer Review: Literature Review	
2000 – 2500	11 - 13	100	50	Literature Review (Final)	
1500 - 2000	6 - 7	20	10	Research Report (Final)	
	--	(R) 10	5	Oral Presentation (5 – 7 minutes on Literature Review topic)	Required Part of SJSU GE requirements
	--	(R)	--	Research Skills Assessment Posttest	Required

+9000	36 - 45	200	100	Total Words, Pages, and Points	

✔ Grading Information

Final Letter Grade Scale

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	186 to 200	93 to 100%
A minus	180 to 185	90 to 92%
B plus	172 to 179	86 to 89 %
B	166 to 171	83 to 85%
B minus	160 to 165	80 to 82%
C plus	152 to 159	76 to 79%
C	146 to 151	73 to 75%
C minus	140 to 145	70 to 72%
D plus	132 to 139	66 to 69%
D	126 to 131	63 to 65%
D minus	120 to 125	60 to 62%

According to SJSU GE policy, this course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

- - **Formatting Requirements for all assignments:** All papers must be typed, double-spaced, use 1-inch margins, 12-point font, Times New Roman, and adhere to APA format (7th edition). Please double-check for grammar and spelling errors before turning in your assignments.

- *Extra credit:* *There will be several extra credit opportunities to earn back missed points. These opportunities will be discussed in class.*

- **Extensions:** Extensions will be considered in cases of academic reasons, emergencies, serious illness, or similar disruptive events. If such a circumstance should arise, please contact me as early as possible so I can better support you during this tough time.

- **Late assignments:** Assignments are due at the start of class (turned in during class or uploaded to Canvas) on the day indicated on the course schedule. If due dates are changed, the new due date will be announced in lecture and posted on Canvas in a timely fashion.

- **Grade changes:** Final grades will not be changed unless there was a clerical error.

- Academic integrity: Plagiarism, cheating, and any other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. The [University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7 [pdf]](#) requires you to be honest in all your academic coursework. If evidence of academic misconduct is found, you will receive a zero on the assignment(s) in question and I will file a report with the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Visit the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](#) website for more information.

- **AI use policy:** You may use AI programs (e.g. ChatGPT) to help generate ideas and brainstorm. However, please be aware that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or problematic. It is your responsibility to double-check that the information that comes from these programs are accurate. Please note that you **may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own**. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material and paraphrased. Any plagiarism or other form of cheating will be dealt with severely under relevant SJSU policies.

🏛 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

[PSYC 100W-08/ Writing Workshop, Spring 2026, Course Schedule linked here](#)

[(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tW3v_Ejauj8CP-jhQY9pGOl8Oi_EiE7UxEpMwQiQT-4/edit?usp=sharing)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tW3v_Ejauj8CP-jhQY9pGOl8Oi_EiE7UxEpMwQiQT-4/edit?usp=sharing)

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tW3v_Ejauj8CP-jhQY9pGOl8Oi_EiE7UxEpMwQiQT-4/edit?usp=sharing)

* The course schedule is subject to change. Any updates will be uploaded to Canvas.

Week	Date (M/W)	Topics	Assignments due @ 11:59pm	Learning Outcomes
1	Jan. 26	Syllabus/Introductions Community agreements	Explore Canvas page Research Skills Pretest	LO 3
	Jan. 28	APA Style Basics - In-text citations, reference citations, APA- style writing		
2	Feb. 2	APA Style Basics Types of sources (empirical studies, theoretical articles, literature reviews, etc)		LO 1 & 3
	Feb. 4	Discus Evaluating Sources of Information assignment		

3	Feb. 9	Dissecting a Research Report Basics of Research Design Developing a research question APA Style Basics Discuss Research Question, Annotated References and Initial Reference List Assignments		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Feb. 11	Evaluating Sources of Information activity		
4	Feb. 16	Library Visit - Christa Bailey (King 213)		LO 1 & 3
	Feb. 18	Asynchronous (No class) - Work on Evaluating Sources of Information paper	• Evaluating Sources of Information paper due at 11:59pm	LO 1
5	Feb. 23	Work on Research Question and Dissecting a Literature Review Assignment Discuss Research Question, Annotated References and Initial Reference List Assignments		LO 1
	Feb. 25	Discuss Annotated References and Initial Reference list assignments Work Research Question assignment	• Research Question Assignment due at 11:59pm • Dissecting a Literature Review due at 11:59pm	LO 1, 2, 3, & 4

6	Mar. 2	Writing workshop - Work on Annotated References and Initial Reference List/ask for help		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Mar. 4	Research Question Feedback Discuss Outline Assignment Work on Annotated References and Initial Reference List	• Annotated References Assignment and Initial References List due at 11:59pm	
7	Mar. 9	Research Question Feedback Microsummaries (in class) Writing your literature review Summarizing and paraphrasing research Practice writing introduction and concluding paragraphs Work on Outline Assignment Discuss Literature Review Development Meetings and sign-up sheet posted		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Mar. 11	Writing workshop - Work on assignments/ask for help	Outline Assignment (due at 11:59pm)	

8	Mar. 16	Literature Review Development Meetings		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Mar. 18	Literature Review Development Meetings		
9	Mar. 23	Literature Review Development Meetings		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Mar. 25	Literature Review Development Meetings	Literature Review (Draft 1) due at 11:59pm	
10	Mar. 30 - Apr. 1	Spring Break - No class		
11	Apr. 6 - Apr. 8	Literature Review Conferences		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
12	Apr. 13	Literature Review - Peer Review in class Review Research Report examples Review Presentation instructions and examples	Literature Review (Draft 2 - Peer Review) submission due before class	LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Apr. 15	Writing workshop - Work on Literature Review (Final)/ask for help	Literature Review (Final) due at 11:59pm	
13	Apr. 20	Research Report Station 1 & 2		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Apr. 22	Research Report Stations 3 & 4		

14	Apr. 27	Research Report Stations 5 & 6		LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
	Apr. 29	Writing workshop - Work on Research Report/ask for help		
15	May 4 - May 6	Presentations	- All final presentation uploads due by start of class - Research Skills Assessment Posttest	LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
16	May 11	Presentations	- All final presentation uploads due by start of class - Research Report (Final) due at 11:59pm	LO 1, 2, 3, & 4
Make-up presentations	Wed., May 20 via Zoom at 9:00 - 11:00am			LO 1, 2, 3, & 4