

San José State University
Department of English & Comparative Literature
ENGL 1B: Argument and Analysis, Section 6, Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Ed Sams
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Office Hours:	MW 10:30 a.m.--Noon & 3:00-3:30 p.m.
Class Days/Time:	Section 2 TTH 9:00-10:15 a.m.
Classroom:	BBC 205
Prerequisites:	GE Areas A1 (Oral Communication) and A2 (Written Communication) with grades of C or better
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE C2 Humanities—Letters

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus and assignment instructions can be found on my faculty Web page and grades will be posted on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for checking the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates.

ENGL 1B Course Description

General Course Description

English 1B is a writing course that focuses on argumentation and analysis. Through the study of literary, rhetorical, and professional texts, you will develop the habits of mind required to write argumentative and critical essays. Particular emphasis is placed on writing and reading processes. You will have repeated practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing, and repeated practice in reading closely in a variety of forms, styles, structures, and modes.

Our theme for this semester will be robots. Your research should focus on robotics or artificial intelligence, or the Internet.

ENGL 1B Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of the course, you will bring into your personal and professional life the abilities needed to participate in social and cultural communities:

1. reading literature and related texts purposefully to establish contexts for analysis.
2. reading texts rhetorically, taking into account a writer's purpose, audience, and context.

3. using critical thinking skills—such as synthesis, interpretation, response, and evaluation—to write essays that integrate ideas with those from appropriate primary and secondary sources.
4. integrating and documenting quotations, summaries, and paraphrases.
5. identifying and using strategies for drafting, revising, collaborating, and editing essays.
6. controlling syntax, grammar, and punctuation to develop prose that is readable, logical, and clear.

GE C2 Course Description

ENGL 1B fulfills general education area C2 Letters. Courses in Letters give students knowledge and understanding of significant works of the human intellect and imagination. You will examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes in the production and perception of such works, and the significance of the historical and cultural contexts in which the works are created and interpreted. Courses will enable you to participate in social and cultural communities associated with artistic and literary endeavors, enriching your personal and professional life.

GE C2 Learning Outcomes (GELO)

In addition to the learning objectives stated above, ENGL 1B also measures the learning goals of GE Area C2. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to

1. recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns;
2. respond to such works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses;
3. write clearly and effectively.

ENGL 1B Course Content

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading and writing 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 genders and from different socio-economic classes.

Writing: You will write a series of essays informed by research and articulating fully developed arguments about complex issues. Writing assignments will give you repeated practice in prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. This class requires a minimum of 6000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form. Assignments include in-class writing as well as revised out-of-class essays.

Reading: Besides assigned essays written by diverse experts in their respective fields, we shall also study Isaac Asimov's science fiction classic *I, Robot* to see how literature inspires and influences computer scientists and mechanical engineers who, in turn, are changing the world in which we live and the lives of all of us for the foreseeable future. If knowledge is power, then reading is the most powerful way to gain knowledge. This power is intensified by research, and if reading provides the conduit of power, then writing provides the concentration and control of the power that knowledge provides. Robots are now a reality, and it will take all the power, knowledge, and control we possess to work and live with this new reality while preserving our past and safeguarding our future.

Critical Thinking: In addition to focusing on how to write arguments, the course also teaches you how to analyze and evaluate texts critically. More specifically, you will practice evaluating arguments for purpose, audience, rhetorical strategies, conclusions; evaluating ideas by contextualizing your assumptions and values (historical, cultural, socio-economic, political); and evaluating your own understanding of ideas by identifying your own interpretative lens.

Research: ENGL 1B will include a library orientation conducted by a trained librarian to introduce the library and basic research strategies that you will need to complete upper-division coursework, including locating materials, using them effectively (e.g., quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing), and citing them properly.

Oral Communication: *Students must complete oral communication assignments. Our oral communication assignment will take the form of a PowerPoint presentation profiling an important engineer in robotics. Evaluative comments for these assignments, addressing issues of both content and presentation, will substantively remark on the logic of the argument as well as the presentation's delivery.*

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Asimov, Isaac. *I, Robot*. New York: Bantam-Doubleday, 1991. (ISBN: 0-553-29438-5)

Bedford Handbook, eds. Diana Hacker & Nancy Sommers. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2017. (ISBN 978-1-4576-0802-5)

The Millennium Reader, eds. Stuart Hirschberg & Terry Hirschberg, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009. (ISBN 978-0-13-601738-7)

Other Readings

A good collegiate dictionary, two green exam booklets, one yellow exam booklet

FYI

These assigned essays in *The Millennium Reader* can be found at MLK Library. The rest are in *Pages* on Canvas.

Michael Levin "A Case for Torture" - *Newsweek* article from June 1982 - available in hard copy magazine available for photocopying or microform edition

Bill Bryson "What's Cooking? Eating in America" - Book Chapter in *Made in America: An Informal History of the English Language in the United States* - one print copy available in the library

Aaron Copland "Film Music" - online option available - <http://www.runmovies.eu/aaron-copland-talks-about-film-music/>

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Assignment Word Count and Learning Goals

Assignment	Word Count	GELO	CLO
Diagnostic essay	500		1, 5,6,8
Argumentative rewrite of diagnostic essay	1000		1, 2,3,4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Annotated working bibliography	500		2,4,5,6,8
Preliminary draft of research paper	500		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Research paper	2000		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Critical review	1000		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Practice Final	500		1,2,3,4,5,6

Grading Policy

A=persuasive, informative evaluation that is complete and correct	(A+=100, A=95, A-=90)
B=informative, well-developed analysis with few errors	(B+=89, B=85, B-=80)
C=complete, clear reporting with some errors	(C+=79, C=75, C-=70)
D=incomplete, incoherent writing with major errors	(D+=69, D=65, D-=60)
F=off topic, plagiaristic, or late	(50)

(A plus sign added to a letter grade indicates that the student has performed to the highest degree within the range of the letter grade assigned; a minus added to a letter grade indicates that the student has performed to the least degree within the range of the letter grade assigned.)

Final Average will be determined by the breakdown of these categories:

Two 1000-word essays for 20% to be graded on the A-F scale.

One 2000-word research paper for 20% to be graded on the A-F scale.

Four preliminary drafts, 500 words each, to be graded on the A-F scale for 20%.

One PowerPoint presentation to be graded on the A-F for 10%.

Ten quizzes at 10% to be graded on the 100-point scale.

Ten participation grades (homework & class activities) for 10% graded on the 100-point scale.

One final exam for 10% to be graded on the A-F scale.

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to be in their seats when class begins. They should have all the necessary books ready for class activities and discussion. The day's assignments should have been read and assigned homework typed and ready to turn in. There is no provision for late work. Online devices in class should be used only for note-

taking. No plagiarism! Using language, information, and ideas without quotations and citations may result in failing the course and being referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Please note: *Students must receive a C or higher to pass the course.*

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90-5 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Drop deadline= February 4, 2018

Add deadline=February 11, 2018

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an

individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

English 1B (Section 6), Spring 2020 Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available. *The Offices of Faculty Affairs and the Education Accessibility Center ask that instructors use the following table when creating their course calendar.*

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Jan 23	Intro to Course, Syllabus reviewed, Diagnostic Essay
1	Jan 28	PowerPoint topics assigned
2	Jan 30	PPT presentations & oral reports
2	Feb 4	PPT presentations & oral reports (drop deadline)
3	Feb 6	PPT presentations & oral reports
3	Feb 11	PPT presentations & oral reports, "Love is a Fallacy" (Canvas), Bedford 34
4	Feb 13	Quiz, Bedford 6, MR 211, 574
4	Feb 18	Asimov intro & Ch. 1, Bedford 28, Bedford 50-51
5	Feb 20	Quiz, Bedford 52, MR 181, MR 638
5	Feb 25	Bedford 37, Bedford 53-54, Asimov Ch. 2, outline due
6	Feb 27	Quiz, MR 653, 532, 50; research topics
6	Mar 3	Rewrite due, Library Session
7	Mar 5	Asimov Ch. 3; Bedford 23, Bedford 55; Research topic due
7	Mar 10	Quiz, Bedford 39, Bedford 56a, Asimov Ch. 4
8	Mar 12	Quiz, Asimov Ch. 5, Bedford 56b, MR 415
8	Mar 17	In-class annotated bibliography, note cards due
9	Mar 19	Asimov Ch. 6; Bedford 11
9	Mar 24	Research draft due, peer review, Asimov Ch. 7
10	Mar 26	Quiz, Asimov Ch. 8, MR 163
10	Mar 31	Spring Break
11	Apr 7	Asimov Ch. 9
11	Apr 9	Research paper due, Film

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
12	Apr 14	Film; Bedford 12
12	Apr 16	Quiz, Bedford 7
13	Apr 21	Bedford 13, MR 796, outline due
13	Apr 23	Quiz Bedford 24
14	Apr 28	In-class critical review
14	Apr 30	Quiz, Bedford 25, MR 361, final exam prep
15	May 5	Practice Final Exam
15	May 7	Quiz, Final Exam Prep, holistic scoring, WST
Final	Exam	Tuesday, May 19 from 7:15-9:30 a.m.