

San José State University  
**College of Humanities and Arts,**  
**Department of English and Comparative Literature**  
**Fall 2021, English 1A Section 21**

### **Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Alesya Petty
Contact:	Message through Canvas (Alesya.Petty@sjsu.edu)
Office Location:	Conferences are on Zoom
Office Hours:	By appointment via Zoom (M-Th 9-4pm)
Class Times:	Hybrid. Async/In-person Thursdays, 12:30-1:45
Classroom:	BBC 122
Prerequisites:	The <i>Reflection on College Writing</i> is a prerequisite to English IA.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	English 1A satisfies Written Communication I, GE Area A2. To earn graduation credit in this category, you must complete the course with a grade of C- or better.

### **Catalog Description of English 1A**

English 1A fulfills the Written Communication I requirement. Courses in GE Area 2 cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with the special attention to the nature of writing in the university. Students in these courses develop college level reading abilities, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas and feelings. A grade of C- or better signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English.

### **Section Specific Course Description of English 1A**

This course explores university life and college experience while practicing academic skills needed in all subject areas and majors. WE will use reading and writing to discuss the influence of cultural myths on our identity and their impact on our past, present, and future.

### **Course Format**

This is a hybrid course that will combine synchronous in-person meetings and asynchronous individual work online on Canvas.

## Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

Hybrid model for the course requires the appropriate technology such as a computer with reliable access to our Canvas Learning Management System. (Should you require assistance in obtaining the necessary hardware or connectivity, reach out to CAPS.)

## Communication and Information

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas or through your SJSU email to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas, see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).

## What You Will Learn In English 1A

The General Education guidelines for instructors outline five broad learning outcomes for all courses that satisfy Area A2. This course is designed to ensure that you meet these outcomes.

### GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *demonstrate the ability to read actively and rhetorically*
2. *demonstrate the ability to perform the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing) and demonstrate an awareness of said performance*
3. *articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and rhetorical appeals*
4. *demonstrate the ability to integrate their ideas and those of others by explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres*
5. *demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical proficiency in writing*

This course invites you into a learning community and supports adopting good habits around college writing. Through a variety of activities, writing assignments, projects in this course, you will continuously practice all phases of the writing process: prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Consistent practice and effort will allow you to meet the course's GELOs.

For more information on the English 1A curriculum is designed to meet these learning outcomes as well as information about how to earn A2 credit, see the English Department's program syllabus.

Table 1 shows how this course will meet Written Communication I requirements and standards as well as the GE learning objectives.

Major Assignments (by category)	Weight Towards the Final Grade	Target # of Words in Final Draft	GE Learning Objective
Critical Reading & Reflection	20%	1100	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Narrative Writing	20%	900	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Expository Writing with Multimodal Project	30%	1200	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Reflective Writing and Portfolio	15%	800	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Homework/ Participation	15%	4000+	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**Table 1:** Summary of Writing Assignments for English

“Success in this course 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 3 hours per 1 unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

## Required Texts/Readings

There are no formal textbooks required for this course. This course is part of the Affordable Learning Solutions program that was created to provide easy, direct access to inexpensive, accessible, and high-quality alternatives. All course readings and materials are available on Canvas, online, and through the MLK Library databases. Additional links to required readings will be posted within Canvas.

## Final Examination or Evaluation

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.” In our courses, we will create a portfolio at the end of the semester as our culminating activity.

## Grading Information

University policies are as following:

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>)

- *University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)
- *University Grading System Policy F18-5* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf>)

## How Grades are Calculated

Final grades are based on all the work that you produce in the semester. Major assignments are 85% of your grade (see Table 1 above) and Homework & Participation make up the remaining 15%. All major assignments must be turned in to pass this class.

## Classroom Protocol

Attend Every Class. Come to class on time, every time and stay for the duration. No amount of solitary make-up work can replace missed collaboration in the classroom. If you miss a class for any reason, please hold yourself responsible to find out what you missed. You have several resources you can draw on to find this out: you can consult updates in Canvas to find out what work you missed; your classmates may be able to provide you copies of notes or a summary of the lessons they learned; sometimes there may be assignments or class work posted on Canvas. With a large learning community of your peers, the instructor should not be your primary resource for finding our information. Emailing me is not a resource for finding information about missed work as I cannot repeat the lesson for you. We will also have an embedded tutor who is going to be available to answer questions and assist you with the course progression and assignments.

Instructor Office Hours. In college, there is an expectation that students will take responsibility for their own educational experience. If you need to discuss anything concerning your performance in the course, please message me through Canvas or email me to schedule an appointment on zoom.

Turn in All Work On Time. As a rule, deadlines must be honored and late work is not accepted. In cases of emergency, exceptions for major assignment submissions can be made with prior communication before the deadline and with proper documentation (doctor's note, mechanic's bill, athletic commitment, etc.), and the work must be turned in by the newly assigned due date; there are no exceptions to this. These policies are in place to be fair to your classmates who also have demanding schedules and to support a sequenced step-by-step, collaborative approach to developing your writing. Please, be aware that missing an original due date is very cumbersome to everyone in the class.

Share Your Work and Your Opinion. We will be sharing our work in classes and online, as part of a collective inquiry into reading and writing. Your work and your classmates' work represent models of various approaches to thinking and writing. You can earn participation points by completing in-class workshop activities and by posting to the Discussion board assignments. Participation is worth a total of 15% of your entire grade, so participating fully is beneficial not only to your writing and classroom community, but also to your overall grade. Consistent participation works in similar ways extra credit does in other classes.

Follow Standards of Good Classroom Netiquette. Be courteous and respectful of your classmates who constitute a diverse learning community. Class dynamics are much enhanced when all members can participate in the same conversation. Please make the wise choice to stay on task in our sessions and ignore the urge to check your social media or engage in other distractions. You can bring a closed-top cup or water bottle to class, but please no snacking or eating as it interferes with learning. *Recording in our classroom and sharing of the contents of the Canvas course are not allowed and are protected by university policies.*

## 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## Fall 2021 Important Due Dates

Due Dates	Major Assignment
13 October	Personal Narrative Essay
10 November	Expository Essay
17/18 November	Multimodal Project/ Presentations
2 December	Final Portfolio