

Argument and Analysis Section 04

ENGL 1B

Fall 2023 3 Unit(s) 08/21/2023 to 12/06/2023 Modified 08/23/2023

Course Description and Requisites

English 1B is a writing course that focuses on argumentation and analysis. Through the study of literary, rhetorical, and professional texts, students will develop the habits of mind required to write argumentative and critical essays. Particular emphasis is placed on writing and reading processes. Students 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.

GE Area(s): C2. Humanities

Prerequisite: ENGL 1A or ENGL 1AS with a C- or better.

ENGL 1B is not open to students who successfully completed ENGL 2.

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

ENGL 1B

ENGL 1B is open to (1) students majoring in Marine Biology, Biochemistry, Geology, and Engineering (Aerospace, Biomedical, Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, General, Industrial and Systems, Mechanical, and Software); and (2) transfer students who have completed GE Area A3 (Critical Thinking) requirement and still need to take a second semester of English composition for GE Area C2.

This course is not open to students who have successfully completed ENGL 2.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1A or Stretch English (with a grade of C- or better)

Satisfies GE Area C2: Letters

Section Specific Description

In this course, we will read and analyze literature, film, and poetry that explore the themes of journey and success. We will learn how fiction from different times and places can be relevant to students today and how it can help them better understand who they are and want to be. These themes will be incorporated in our weekly practices and major projects that help develop academic skills needed in all subject areas and majors.

ENGL 1B Course Content

Diversity: SJSU studies include an emphasis on diversity. You will engage in integrated reading, Writing, and oral 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 ethnicities, genders, and 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: In addition to being writing intensive, ENGL 1B is also a reading course. You will read a variety of literary, rhetorical, and professional works of the human intellect and imagination. Secondary materials will be read to help situate the historical and cultural contexts in which the primary texts were created. All the readings serve as useful models of writing for academic, general, and specific audiences.

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.

Oral: You will be presenting your arguments orally to class both as an individual and as part of a group.

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.

Time Commitment

Success in ENGL 1B 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 1B, 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.

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)

GE Area C2: Humanities

Area C Arts and Humanities courses help students to respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and to develop an understanding of the integrity of both emotional and intellectual responses. C2 Humanities courses encourage students to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical, historical, literary, aesthetic, and cultural importance.

GE Area C2 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of a C2 course, students should be able to:

1. analyze and understand works of philosophical and humanistic importance, including their temporal and cultural dimensions;
2. explore and articulate their own subjective aesthetic and intellectual responses to such texts;
3. analyze and assess ideas of value, meaning, and knowledge, as produced within the humanistic disciplines; and
4. research and write effective analyses of works of the human intellect and imagination

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 1500 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline.

Course Materials

Required Texts/Readings

Schilb, John, and John Clifford. *A Brief Guide to Arguing about Literature*. 3d.ed. Bedford/St.Martin's, 2020.

Coelho, Paulo. *The Alchemist*. Harper Collins, 2014.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Main Project: You will be working on the main project in a writing group with the same people for the majority of the semester. Most assignments from the course will be incorporated into your main project. Your final project will have a number of components, all of which will count toward the final grade. Weekly participation is essential for the success of the project and in the course. Parts of the project will include writing about literature and the use of scholarly sources. (1500+ words)

Theme Analysis (600+)

Close Reading (600+)

Comparative Writing (600+)

Weekly Journals related to the course themes and topics (10x150+)

Self-reflection Essay and Portfolio (700+ words) "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 course, we will create a portfolio at the end of the semester as our culminating activity.

Grading Information

How Grades are Calculated

Grading Contract:[\[1\]](#)

In this class, we will work as a learning community to develop our approaches to reading and writing different types of texts. We will

experiment with unfamiliar strategies, and at times we will feel unsure about the direction of our work and our comprehension of the work of others. We will develop writing processes to help us, including prewriting, drafting, workshopping, and revising. We will rely on each other for feedback and support, but we will also take charge of our own learning and success. What does that mean in terms of grading?

This class is meant to improve your skills and experiences as college-level writers, drawing from each of your unique funds of knowledge. Therefore, we will not be using a traditional grading system. Instead, you will be largely responsible for your own grade.

If you do all that is asked of you in the manner and spirit in which it is asked, if you work through the processes we establish and the work we do throughout the semester, if you continue to improve those processes in order to gain more intensity and engagement in your writing, then you will do well in this course. If you miss in-class activities, turn in assignments late, fail to increase your work's intensity, or fail to submit assignments, your grade will suffer.

Minor assignments will be graded for completion; you will receive a 1/1 for every finished minor assignment you turn in on time. You will receive partial credit for late minor assignments if submitted within the 2 days of the due date. Major assignments will be graded out of 10 points; we will break down the requirements for each assignment and the conventions of each genre you need to meet to achieve each point value. This means that while major assignments will be assessed for things like development, organization, and coherence, they will not be weighted enough to have a huge bearing on your overall course grade (so long as you are keeping up with the minor assignments).

You are guaranteed success in this class if:

1. You complete the majority of all in-class and out-of-class minor assignments, including in-class reading responses and outlines and drafts of all your work. **Note: In-class assignments cannot be made up as the result of an absence.**
2. You prioritize attendance and participate in in-class activities.
3. You abide by the classroom protocol we establish as a writing/learning community.
4. You work cooperatively and collegially in groups. We will come up with parameters for constructive criticism and a shared vocabulary for discussing potentially sensitive subjects.
5. You complete all major and minor assignments **on time**.
6. You may turn out-of-class minor assignments late within 2 days of the deadline for half credit.
7. All submissions are complete. Any incomplete assignments or assignments that do not meet the requirements of the prompt will be deemed "missed." You will not receive credit for missed work.
8. If you fail to turn in a major assignment, you will receive a non-passing grade for the yearlong course (either a "D" or an "F").
9. You provide thoughtful peer feedback during class workshops and commit yourself to other collaborative work.
10. You honor the writing process and complete all steps thereof (e.g. reading/researching, prewriting, drafting and revising).
 1. Revisions should indicate significant changes – extending or changing up the thinking or organization – not just editing or changing words.

Your grade will correspond to your percentage in the "Total" column in Canvas. This will combine points received for in-class and out-of-class minor assignments as well as those for major assignments.

This approach to grading requires that all major assignments be completed in order to pass the class.

Final grades for each semester are based on all the work that you produce in the semester.

To pass the class, you will need C- or better. The breakdown is as follows:

100% A+	99-97% A	96-94% A-
93-91% B+	90-88% B	87-85% B-
84-82% C+	81-79% C	78-76% C-
75-73% D+	72-70% D	69-66% D-

65% and below F

All major assignments are submitted to turnitin.com for plagiarism screening. You must check your originality report for submitted assignments to make sure you are not plagiarizing.

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 2023 Course Schedule

All homework is due at 11:59pm on Mondays and Wednesdays

Weeks	Topics and Assignments
Week 1	Introductions. Building Community. Syllabus and Books.
Week 2	What is Argument? Review of Rhetorical Knowledge. Course Theme.
Week 3	Writing Effective Arguments.
Week 4	Arguing about Literature. Strategies and Models.
Week 5	The Reading Process. Close Reading.
Week 6	The Writing Process.
Week 7	Writing About Literary Genres.
Week 8	Multimodal Writing.
Week 9	Writing Researched Arguments.
Week 10	Evaluating and Using sources. Library and Online Research.
Week 11	Comparative writing.
Week 12	Images and visuals.

Week 13	Project Presentations.
Week 14	Project wrap up. Thanksgiving, no class on 11/23.
Week 15	Self-reflection and Portfolio work.
Week 16	Self-Reflection Essay & Portfolio due. Last class is Tuesday, December 5.
Finals week	No classes