

English 1A: College Composition, Online Section 6033, Spring 2017 Course Syllabus

SRJC Course Description

4 Units/4 hours lecture. Grade Only. Prerequisite: Completion of ENGL 100B or higher (V8) OR Qualifying Test Score in English.

Critical reading and discussion of college-level texts with emphasis on expository and argumentative prose. Composition predominantly of analytical, reasoned, and reflective prose with particular focus on research as it pertains to supporting expository and argumentative essays. (CSU; UC) AA/AS area A; CSU area A2; IGETC area 1A.

Instructor Overview

English 1A is a tandem relay between critical reading, academic writing, and active inquiry. You will be challenged, but if you log in to the class regularly and stay connected in terms of the sequence and logic of assignments, you will succeed. The purpose of this class is to develop critical reading and thinking as well as elevate your academic writing. Students will, via feedback, direct instruction, multimedia, and group inquiry, learn to read critically and write well. Units are composed of weekly assignments, forums, and quizzes are meant to explore various rhetorical modes as well as provide schema for improving thinking and writing. All AA candidates must pass English 1A with a grade of "C" or better in order to get their degree.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Write a comprehensive, well-developed, and coherent expository essay with a focused thesis and appropriate support.
2. Recognize and correct errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
3. Identify and analyze argumentative, stylistic, and narrative techniques.
4. Locate, summarize, synthesize and employ research in a well-developed and documented research essay.
5. Employ correct use of MLA format and formal citations.
6. Read, annotate, summarize, and discuss all kinds of academic college-level non-fiction and fiction.
7. Comprehend and use college-level vocabulary.
8. Explain the conventions of advanced academic discourse, including style, tone, point of view, and the importance of original thought in developing oral and written arguments.

Class Meetings

This course meets online. All material and activities will be completed asynchronously.

Instructor

Contact

James

Kowalczyk

Email: jkowalczyk@santarosa.edu Online: Wednesdays and Fridays, 7-9

Course Web Site

Students will use the Canvas course web site for assignment instructions, submitting assignments, viewing classmates' work, sharing resources, and viewing grades.

Textbooks

Reading Critically Writing Well 10th Edition, Axelrod, Cooper, Warriner ISBN: 978-1-4576-3894-7

My Freshman Year by Rebekah Nathan ISBN: 978-0-14-303747-7

Trash by Andy Mulligan ISBN: 978-0-385-75216-9

You can locate and order textbooks online via the [SRJC Bookstore](#).

Required Software

- [Adobe Reader](#)
- [QuickTime Player](#)
- [Flash Player](#)
- [Open Office](#) (if you don't have Word)

Important Dates

- Class Begins: 1/17
- Class Ends: 5/19
- Last Day to Add *Without* Instructor's Approval: 1/22
- Last Day to Drop with Refund: 1/29

- Last Day to Add *With* Instructor's Approval: 2/5
- Last Day to Drop *Without* a 'W' symbol: 2/5
- Last Day to Drop *with* a 'W' symbol: 4/23

Dropping the Class

If you decide to discontinue this course, it is your responsibility to officially drop it. A student may be dropped from any class when that student's absences exceed ten percent (10%) of the total hours of class time. It is strongly advised that if you need to miss more than one class/homework deadline in a row that you contact me to avoid being dropped from the class.

Attendance

For classes that meet online, students who fail to log on and initiate participation by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time of the first day of the class may be dropped by the instructor.

The Writing Expectations

Drafts are to be at least 500 words and should be built through paragraphs that are unified, coherent, and supported. Any writing, whether it a draft, a revision, or a Formal Essay, will be uploaded as a file. You will use a separate link for revisions as you do for drafts. It is recommended to brainstorm and draft by hand first and then type your finished draft and of course save it as a file on your computer. I then read it for content and mechanics and leave feedback directly on the draft. You will receive a notification when this is done. Drafts are worth a maximum of 50 points. Please check the draft rubric in this week's resources folder. Never email drafts. I will not open them.

Revisions are best done while looking at my feedback. This way you can make revisions to your draft easily (open my feedback and have your file open at the same time). This is a key step for several reasons. First, it gives you a second look at your paper after a reader has read it. Second, my feedback often points out what was effective in the draft, giving you a good idea of your strengths. Third, as a student, you will learn by repetition. The course is structured in a way that has you drafting and employing different aspects of writing (conciseness, technique, and active voice among others), and revising every week so that by the time you get to a formal essay you've had ample practice to improve your writing. Revisions are worth 25 points. No rubric, however; you should highlight the changes you've made.

Formal Essays (there are three in total) are where you are expected to apply the concepts and techniques you've learned in the course and from

drafting and revising each week. These are not drafts. You should; however, use the writing process (brainstorm, etc and draft by hand before you type in the final draft of the essay). Formal essays are worth 100 points and you get one chance to complete them. The deadline is final.

General Expectations

- Each week ends on Sunday at 11:55 pm. You are expected to complete all the work (assignments, drafts, quizzes, forums) by the end of each week.
- If you encounter technical problems that prevent you from completing assignments, you need to let me know in a timely manner. I will do my best to help you trouble-shoot the problem. Technical problems are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting essays on time.
- In forums, you are expected to make posts and replies that depth and an attempt at analysis. It is not enough to just make a point-you must support it. Replies to posts should be more dynamic than a quick, oversimplified, thought. Forums are central to the course in that they not only create community, but also serve as a nucleus around which the curriculum can flow. The Forum Rubric (located in the Resource Folder) provides specifics in terms of points and letter grades.
- For assignments, students are expected to follow the Assignment Format (located in the Resource Folder). Uploaded files should be either doc, doc.x, or pdf files. If I cannot open a file because it is of unknown origin, there will be a delay in grading. Assignments receive a credit or no credit number of points (either 0 or 10). Always complete assignments using the Assignment Format.
- You are expected to read all announcements. I will post announcements on the "Instructor Announcements" page in Canvas throughout the semester. Canvas notifies students according to their preferred Notification Preferences. There is an "Ask and Answer" forum to request assistance of your classmates or of me.
- Conduct yourself in a manner that encourages mutual respect, honorable behavior, and learning, thereby promoting student success and discouraging academic dishonesty.

Exams

There will be online midterm and final exams. If any exam is missed, a zero will be recorded as the score. It is your responsibility to take the exams by the due date.

Grading Policy

Click the "Grades" link in Canvas to keep track of your grades. I grade once a week and post grades and comments in the Canvas gradebook.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90%	1,409 points or more
B	80%	1,253 to 1,408 points
C	70%	1,096 to 1,252 points
D	60%	940 to 1,095 points

Standards of Conduct

Students who register in SRJC classes are required to abide by the SRJC Student Conduct Standards. Violation of the Standards is basis for referral to the Vice President of Student Services or dismissal from class or from the College. See the [Student Code of Conduct page](#).

Collaborating on or copying of tests or homework in whole or in part will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and result in a grade of 0 for that test or assignment. Students are encouraged to share information and ideas, but not their work. See these links on Plagiarism:

[SRJC Writing Center Lessons on avoiding plagiarism](#)

[SRJC's statement on Academic Integrity](#)

Special Needs

Every effort is made to conform to accessibility standards for all instructor-created materials. Students should contact their instructor as soon as possible if they find that they cannot access any course materials. Students with disabilities who believe they need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disability Resources (527-4278).