

# Argument and Analysis Section 06

## ENGL 1B

Spring 2023 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 01/21/2023

### Contact Information

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**Instructor:** Allison St. Dennis

**Email:** [allison.stdennis@sjsu.edu](mailto:allison.stdennis@sjsu.edu)

**Office hours:** Wednesday, 10:30-11:30 am and by appointment

**Zoom link for office hours:** <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/86453886948> (<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/86453886948>)

**Class meeting days/time/classroom:**

Sect 6: T/TR 1:30-2:45 pm in BBC 121

### Course Description and Requisites

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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

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**Office Hours:** Visit my scheduled Zoom office hours or make an appointment if you would like extra help.

**Email:** Please email me to inform me of an absence or to ask questions about assignments. Put our course name and section number or time/date of our course (for example: Sect 4, T/TR 9am) in the Subject of your email. Also, please include a salutation and address me by name (e.g., *Hi Allison*, or *Good morning Mrs. St. Dennis*, or *Hello Professor St. Dennis*) in your email, and sign your emails with your name. Also, use your best prose (capitalization, punctuation, complete sentences) so that your writing is easy to read. These are all professional courtesies and good practice for your future careers.

**Attendance:** We will do activities in our live class sessions, for which you will receive points. There are no make-ups for these assignments. If you are absent, email me so I can advise about missed instruction. Check Canvas for announcements too.

**Illness:** In the case that you become ill or injured, please provide me documentation from county or university officials or healthcare professionals. Advise me of the dates (if possible) you'll be out so that I can provide you with materials you miss from the in-person lectures and also adapt assignments as needed so you don't lose points. If you will be out for a prolonged period due to serious illness or injury, it is your responsibility to withdraw or to communicate with me regularly your intentions to stay in the course and to complete

the assigned work during the semester. Students who miss significant portions of in-class instruction will not pass the class. Students must keep up with the reading and homework posted in Canvas. I encourage our class to create a course message board to request and share notes and information about our class meetings and email me with questions.

**Late work and make-ups:** You will need a documented, excused absence for any work that is not turned in on the due date. Late papers without an excused absence will be marked down a letter grade for each class period they are late. These policies are in place to be fair to your classmates who also have demanding schedules. Provide documentation (doctor's note, etc.) to excuse an absence.

**Classroom and online conduct:** Please be courteous in our live classes and in your written online responses to me and to your fellow classmates. In class, this means listening when I am lecturing and when another classmate is speaking. When critiquing one another's work online, offer constructive and kind advice. During our in-person classes, **put away laptops and phones** unless otherwise permitted. These are distractions from the lecture and class activities.

**COVID-19 protocols:** Please observe the [university's health and safety protocols](#) so we can have a healthy semester together.

**Plagiarism** To plagiarize is to use the language and thoughts of another author and represent them as one's own. When borrowing information from outside sources, you must credit the author with an in-text citation; neglecting to do so is an act of academic dishonesty and in violation of the university's Office of Student Conduct's [Academic Integrity Policy](#). Plagiarism will result in automatic failure of the assignment, and possible failure of the class. Plagiarism may be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for possible additional penalty. We will review in class what constitutes plagiarism and discuss the appropriate documentation formats.

## 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

## ENGL 1B Course Content

### Course Specific Description:

*Weird Science:* In this section of English 1B, we will examine the literary and film responses to specific scientific developments and theories related to human health from the 19th century to the present. We'll read about the historical, philosophical, and political contexts to examine the artistic works and the ethical concerns they raise about the scientific interventions and advances in human biology and health.

**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.

## Course 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.

## 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

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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://www.sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php>).

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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### 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

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### Required Texts/Readings

All required reading and video materials are provided for you in our Canvas course. Click on the assignments as listed in our weekly schedule. The links to the materials are within the assignments.

We we also consult Purdue Online Writing Lab website for grammar and documentation conventions

### Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Regular access to the internet and Canvas and a word processor.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

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**Essay Assignments (CLOs 1-4):** For each essay, you will be given a prompt with specific guidelines to write the essay. Final drafts must be typed, using MLA documentation style. All final essays will be run through Turnitin.com in Canvas to check for plagiarism.

Essay Assignment	Word Count
Essay 1: Frankenstein analysis	1000
Essay 2: Genetic science and ethics analysis	1000
Essay 3: AI and bioenhancements argument	1200
Final self-reflection essay and e-portfolio	750

**In-class Activities and Participation (CLOs 1-3):** In class, we will have class discussion and do a number of writing activities—some announced, some not—related to our lecture and reading for which you will receive participation points. These points cannot be made up so attendance is essential to receive credit. Point values for the writing activities are indicated in Canvas.

**Peer Review Workshops and Essay Revision (CLOs 2-4):** For three of the essays, you will write a complete rough draft to participate in a peer-review workshop. You will exchange rough drafts with a classmate and comment upon the strengths and weaknesses of each other's essays and offer suggestions for improvement. You will be awarded points for both having the draft and reviewing your classmates' work.

**Reading Responses, Discussion Posts, Cornell Notes (CLOs 1-4):** For our reading assignments this semester, you will compose a reading response, discussion post, and/or take Cornell notes. Usually these are due before class to encourage you to read, but occasionally we'll do them during or after class. Reading responses and Discussion posts should be at least a healthy paragraph, around 200 words in length, and demonstrate thoughtfulness in response to the prompt and assigned reading. See the rubric in Canvas for the Cornell notes. At the end of the semester, if it helps your grade, I will "throw out" two of your lowest scores on these to cut you a little slack in the homework schedule.

**Final Examination or Evaluation (CLO 2):**

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.

## ✓ Grading Information

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<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>97 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>93 to 96%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>87 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>83 to 86%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>77 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 76%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>67 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 66%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>59% and below</i>

Assignments	Points
Essay 1	100
Essay 2	125
Essay 3	150
Final Self-Reflection	75
Reading & writing homework and in-class activities	75*
Peer review workshops and essay outlines (10 pts each)	50
Total	575*

\*Note: These points are approximate, depending on how many activities we do throughout the semester.

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 \(https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php\)](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Major Assignments and Deadlines <i>(Please consult the Modules in Canvas for detailed, week-by-week, and up-to-date assignments and deadlines)</i>
1	Th, 1/26	First Day of Instruction
2	Tu, 1/30	Start Unit 1: Scientific Revolution and Frankenstein
	Th, 2/2	
3	Tu, 2/7	
	Th, 2/9	
4	Tu, 2/14	
	Th, 2/16	
5	Tu, 2/21	Rough Draft Essay 1 due
	Th, 2/23	Essay 1 due
6	Tu, 2/28	Start Unit 2: Genetic Science and Ethics
	Th, 3/2	
7	Tu, 3/7	
	Th, 3/9	
8	Tu, 3/14	
	Th, 3/16	

9	Tu, 3/21	Rough Draft Essay 2 due
	Th, 3/23	Essay 2 due
10	Tu, 3/28  Th, 3/30	Spring Break--No Class
11	Tu, 4/4	Start Unit 3: Artificial Intelligence and Bioenhancements
	Th, 4/6	
12	Tu, 4/11	
	Th, 4/13	
13	Tu, 4/18	
	Th, 4/20	
14	Tu, 4/25	Rough Draft Essay 3 due
	Th, 4/27	Essay 3 due
15	Tu, 5/2	Start Unit 4: Self-Reflection and ePortfolio
	Th, 5/4	
16	Tu, 5/9	
	Th, 5/11	Last Day of Class
Final ePortfolio due	Wed, 5/17	All items for the final ePortfolio are due at the end of the final exam period for our class: Wed, 5/17 2:30 pm