

# First-Year Writing: Stretch English I Section 07

## ENGL 1AF

Fall 2022 3 Unit(s) 08/19/2022 to 12/06/2022 Modified 08/22/2022

### Contact Information

Instructor:	Faith Kirk, Ph.D.
Email:	faith.kirk@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	On Zoom Thursdays from 10:00-11:00 am PST and by appointment
Office Hours Link:	<a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/84443982055?pwd=ZUlrUEJZUjU2WjV6N1BRSDlaZ1dodz09">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/84443982055?pwd=ZUlrUEJZUjU2WjV6N1BRSDlaZ1dodz09</a>  Passcode: 127388
Class Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:45 pm
Class Location:	Clark Building 225B

### Course Description and Requisites

Stretch I is the first semester of a year-long ENGL 1A that prepares students to join scholarly conversations across the university. Students develop reading skills, rhetorical sophistication, and writing styles that give form and coherence to complex ideas for various audiences, using various genres.

Prerequisite: Completion of Reflection on College Writing.

CR/NC/I Undergraduate

### Classroom Protocols

Our classroom is a learning environment where everyone's right to explore ideas needs to be respected. There is nothing wrong with disagreement and debate. In fact, saying that you disagree with someone and why you do is crucial for really doing the work of critically thinking. What *is* wrong is being disrespectful to anyone in our class or actively suppressing a colleague's ability to think, collaborate, and write. We will be practicing how to engage with each other with mutual respect.

### 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 this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours on this course each semester (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.

## Campus Resources for Writers

### SJSU Writing Center

Located in Clark Hall, Suite 126, the Writing Center offers appointments with tutors who are well trained to assist you as you work to become a better writer. The Writing Center offers both one-on-one tutoring and workshops on a variety of writing topics. All services are free. To make an appointment or to refer to the Center's online resources, visit the [Writing Center website](https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>).

### SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections is your online, campus-wide resource for mentoring (time management, note taking, study skills, getting involved, etc.), tutoring (undergraduate writing, lower division Math, Science, History, Humanities, etc.), supplemental instruction (review and study sessions for select courses), and learning assistants in classes across campus. All services are free. Make appointments to meet with a tutor or mentor by visiting Spartan Connect. For more information on services, online workshops, and a step-by-step guide to making an appointment, please visit the [Peer Connections website](https://www.sjsu.edu/peerconnections/index.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/peerconnections/index.php>).

## 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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Stretch I and II, together, fulfill the Written Communication I requirement. Courses in GE Area A2 cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with 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.

Stretch English is designed to give you more time to develop your reading and writing skills. By enrolling in this two-semester course, you are joining a learning community. You will study with the same classmates and writing instructor in both the fall and spring semesters. Staying with your class cohort both semesters accelerates your learning and gives you the chance to make strong relationships on campus.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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### GE Area A2: Written Communication

Written Communication I courses cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with special attention to the nature of writing at the university. A grade of C- or better designates that a student has successfully oriented reading and writing practice in English to support college level research and learning and to share learning with C- or better is a CSU graduation requirement.

## GE Area 2 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area A2 course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, context, effectiveness, and forms of written communication;
2. perform essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing);
3. articulate an awareness of and write according to the rhetorical features of texts, such as purpose, audience, context, and

rhetorical appeals;

4. integrate their ideas and those of others by synthesizing, explaining, analyzing, developing, and criticizing ideas effectively in several genres; and
5. demonstrate college-level language use, clarity, and grammatical abilities in writing.

**Writing Practice:** Students will write a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

## Stretch English Course Learning Outcomes

**Students will:**

1. engage fully in the writing process by prewriting, planning, drafting, and revising texts for varying audiences, purposes, and rhetorical situations
2. demonstrate the ability to identify the choices other writers make to appeal to and meet the needs of their audience
3. demonstrate the ability to identify the writing choices they make to appeal to and meet the needs of their audience
4. demonstrate the ability to incorporate ideas and information from other writers into their own writing through citation
5. demonstrate an increased awareness of the language they use by applying effective strategies for editing their own writing
6. demonstrate the ability to reflect on their progress as rhetorical readers and writers by compiling a portfolio and writing a self-reflective essay

### The Stretch Calendar

Stretch I and II span the fall and spring terms: the fall and spring course are both required to complete the A2 coursework. You will be enrolled in the same section in spring semester (time, day, instructor) so you should plan on reserving this time slot in your spring schedule.

### The A2 Milestone for Progress to Degree

The California State University system and SJSU expect all students to have completed their A2 requirement within the year. Please work with your instructor and all recommended support staff to achieve this milestone successfully.

### Course Description

Stretch I and II, together, fulfill the Written Communication I requirement. Courses in GE Area A2 cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with 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-(minus) or better signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English.

Stretch English is designed to give you more time to develop your reading and writing skills. By enrolling in this two-semester course, you are joining a learning community. You will study with the same classmates and writing instructor in both the fall and spring semesters. Staying with your class cohort both semesters accelerate your learning and gives you the chance to make strong relationships on campus.

## Course Materials

All course materials will be available to you on our Canvas course site.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

The tables below show the sequence of assignments in this course in both fall and spring semesters and how these assignments align with SJSU General Education Learning Outcomes:

**Table 1: Fall Semester**

Assignment	Estimated Word Count	GE Learning Objective
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Critical Reading and Reflection 1	700	GELO 1,2,3,4,5
Personal Essay	950	GELO 2,3,5
Writing for Public Forum	1000	GELO 2,3,4,5
Critical Reading and Reflection 2	700	GELO 1,2,3,4,5
Mid-Year Self-Reflection and Portfolio	875	GELO 1,2,3,4,5

**Table 2: Spring Semester**

Assignment	Estimated Word Count	GE Learning Objective
Interview Project	950	GELO 2,3,5
Profile	1000	GELO 2,3,4,5
Ethnography Project	950	GELO 2,3,5
Critical Reading and Reflection 3	700	GELO 1,2,3,4,5
Critical Essay	1000	GELO 2,3,4,5
Final Self-Reflection and Portfolio	875	GELO 1,2,3,4,5

## ✓ Grading Information

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## Grading in Stretch English

In the fall semester (ENGL 1AF), you will receive either a CR (credit) or a NC (no credit). To receive credit in the fall semester, you must honor your instructor's grading policy and demonstrate significant, measurable progress throughout the semester.

In the spring semester (ENGL 1AS), you will receive a letter grade for the course.

You must earn a C- or better in the spring semester to earn graduation credit for GE Area A2.

## Your Grades

My teaching philosophy is that assessment should always be an **explicit and transparent** process.

This means that:

1. You should always know the expectations for assignments ahead of time.
2. It should be clear to you how you earned your numerical score.
3. You are invited to talk about your grades with me at any time, no questions asked or appointments needed.

With this teaching philosophy in mind, here is the assessment process I have designed for our course:

1. You will see a rubric for each assignment in our course ahead of time so you can plan how to meet the expectations for each task.
2. You will receive a grade and a completed rubric for each task that you submit. For your major assignments, you will receive a grade, a completed rubric, and written feedback.
3. You can ask me questions about grades privately in my Zoom office hours. You can also ask me questions after class and via email.

### Final Examination or Evaluation

In Stretch English, our learning each semester 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.

## Breakdown

MODULE	PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE
Module 1: Where We've Been	25 percent
Module 2: Where We Are Now	25 percent
Module 3: Where We Are Going	25 percent
Module 4: Reflect	25 percent

Instead of giving weight to individual assignments, you will earn credit by Canvas module. This grading practice gives you credit for all of the prep work that goes into each writing assignment.

As a writing teacher, I value the writing *process* rather than solely the final product, so I have designed the assessment practices of this course to reflect that.

## University Policies

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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.