English 201A:English Composition
CRN 50975

Instructor: Jude Rock

Welcome to Distance Education at Cuesta College! My name is Jude Rock and I am the instructor for this online section of English 201A: English Composition. This class provides a study of and practice in the use of language and writing of analytical and argumentative essays and research papers. In other words, the focus is on reading writing and research . Reading is repeatedly identified as THE critical factor in the success of students in their college classes. Likewise, writing is the best practice for discovering and clarifying one's thoughts. Successfully completing this course will enable you to read more strategically, write more persuasively, and research more effectively. In the process, you will harness these technologies for thinking so that you can more decisively *take charge* of *your* success in *college* – and in life. I look forward to getting to know you assisting you in achieving the learning outcomes below.

Contact Information

Email Address: jude_rock@cuesta.edu

Phone Number: 805-546-3176 [Anna Greene, the Division Assistant, can pass on your message]

Office Location: SLO Campus – Room 3444

The best and fastest way to contact me is email. I will generally respond to your emails within 24 hours during weekdays only. During busy times of the semester, the response time may increase to 48 hours. On weekends, I will do my best to get back to you ASAP but I cannot guarantee an expeditious response.

Course Environment

This online course will be using a Web-based Learning Management System Canvas as the method to disseminate information. Canvas provides the framework for the course including PowerPoint presentations, student data files, the tools to receive and send course materials, and a grade book. Using the communication tools, you can communicate by e-mail, and you can share materials and ideas with other course participants via the discussion forums and groups.

Class Opens / Accessing Canvas

Prior to the Monday classes start, June 17, 2019, you will receive an email to your my.Cuesta.edu address providing you with a reminder that class will be starting and log in procedures for Canvas, the learning management system (LMS) used to deliver course content. You can access Canvas by logging into MyCuesta, then clicking on the Resources Tab, then clicking on Canvas in the Online Learning

Channel, or by typing the Canvas address (https://cuesta.instructure.com/) into your browser address bar. Do not bookmark / favorite the Canvas site after your login, or you will get an error message the next time you try to log in. You must access the Canvas log in directly.

If you are not familiar with logging into canvas, please refer to the Canvas Quick Reference Guide. Once logged into Canvas you will be directed on where to get started. Be sure to read all the direction on the course home page.

If you are having difficulty logging into Canvas after [Enter Date] and need assistance please email me or technical support at this email address: support@my.cuesta.edu.

Is an Online Class for You?

While Distance Education courses have many benefits in allowing for flexible schedules and a rewarding learning experience, there are a number of things you should know about this course:

1. Go to this go to this link for Online Readiness Resources to take a "self-assessment". There are many resources that were designed to help you understand the basis for an online class and the skills necessary for success. (If the tutorials do **NOT** describe you, then taking this class online is **NOT** for you and I strongly suggest that you drop the online class and enroll in a traditional classroom section.)
2. This course is designed for those who are computer literate. If you are not both confident and comfortable working with e-mail, word processing, and the Internet, as well as downloading and attaching files, then this online section is not for you; I recommend taking the course in the traditional classroom setting instead.
3. This course requires a great deal of self-motivation. It is the learner's responsibility to keep on top of the reading assignments, to log on to the course website regularly, and to submit assignments and take quizzes by their due date, and access email regularly for instructor communications. Thus, I recommend this course only to those who are both well-organized and self-disciplined.
4. An online course requires roughly the same number of hours and participation as a face-to-face class. You should expect to invest 48 hours of various types of learning and participation for each unit of credit. This is a 4 unit course for 6 weeks (of instruction) which works out to 192 hours. Break that down by week and it comes to **32** hours per week. To make sure you have adequate time, you must set aside this many hours per week.

Computer and Class Requirements

In order to participate and successfully complete assignments in this class, you must . . .
- have access to a computer
- have an email account
- have a reliable Internet connection
- have a backup plan in case your internet provider or computer goes down because all assignments will be submitted electronically
- have an understanding of the basic concepts of email, web navigation and online communication

Regular Effective Contact Policy

Regular and Effective Instructor Contact will be met through weekly instructor-initiated threaded discussion forums; weekly announcements to students; timely and effective feedback on student assignments; email, phone or messaging to individuals; and virtual office hours.

Given the accelerated format of this course, I will work to provide rapid feedback and responses throughout the 6-week course. My expectation is that you will be logging in every day M-F; I will also check for submitted work and answer questions within 48 hours on the weekends.

Course Description

Provides a study of and practice in the use of language and writing of argumentative/analytical essays and research papers. Transfer: CSU; UC

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completing English 201A successfully, students will be able to . . .
SLO1: Write a fair and persuasive argument that takes a clear position and incorporates differing viewpoints.
SLO2: Write an essay that is effectively and clearly organized.
SLO3: Find necessary information, assess its value, and use it in a research paper.
SLO4: Integrate and document sources clearly and ethically.
SLO5: Write clear, grammatical sentences with few errors.

Text Book and Materials

- The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border
  Francisco Cantú
  Penguin | Riverhead Books
  978-0735217737
- Supplemental Materials (if needed)
    - Adobe reader
    - Microsoft Office for Free (including word and powerpoint)

Technical Support

Cuesta students are encouraged to direct all technical support inquiries to support@my.cuesta.edu. If you are having issues with Canvas, you should contact the Canvas Support Hotline at (877) 921-7680, or click on the help button on the Canvas Navigation to report a problem.

If you are having difficulty viewing the course or logging in, it may be because you are not using the correct url: https://cuesta.instructure.com/ or you are using your phone or using an unsupported browser.

Your learning environment is **best accessed from a desktop or laptop computer**, using Firefox or Chrome. This may solve your problem! Please review the browser requirements and minimum computer specifications at:

Accommodations

This course is designed using an accessible Learning Management System, and course materials have been created with ADA compliance in mind. If you have a disability and might need accommodations in this class such as extended time on exams or other resources. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible so that you can receive appropriate accommodations in a timely manner. You should also contact DSPS (Disabled Student Programs & Services) at 805-546-3148 or

College & Course Policies

Academic Honesty Policy

You are expected to complete all your own assignments and exams. If you are caught cheating, you will receive an F.

Recent studies have documented the increase in ghostwriting and contract cheating, especially in distance education.

What is "**cheating**?"

- Sharing answers with another student to complete assignments or exams

- Submitting someone else files as your own

- Submitting either your assignments or another student's files from a previous semester

- Helping someone or receiving help on an exam

- Getting someone else to take your exams

What is "**contract cheating**?"

- Contracting with a third-party to do your writing and/or to take your online class for a fee

Please see this link https://www.turnitin.com/products/authorship-investigate to understand contract cheating and how Turnitin helps instructors authenticate students' writing. I will use Turnitin and check the "author" of any submitted essays; if you are writing your own essays, then make sure your name will appear as the "author" of the document.

For more information, see the Student Code of Conduct from the General College Catalog: www.cuesta.edu/student/documents/admissions_records/code_of_conduct.pdf

In addition to my course policy, please note all students attending San Luis Obispo County Community College District at any district site and when representing Cuesta College in any off-campus activity, assume an obligation to conduct themselves in an acceptable manner compatible with the Student Code of conduct. Please review the Cuesta College Student Code of conduct .

Add / Drop Policy

You will be dropped if you fail to log in for more than 7 days and/or if your postings-to-forum or postings-to-homework percentage falls below 50%.

For Cuesta College Add/Drop Policies please click on the bulleted links below:

- Add Policy
- Drop Policy

Waitlist Policy

You can access Cuesta College waitlist procedures at the following link: Cuesta's waitlist procedure and instructions .