

San José State University

Justice Studies JS132 Race, Gender, Inequality and the Law,

Fall 2019

Instructor: Kevin Lynch, MA

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or Fridays, 12:30 to 1:30 or by appointment

Class Days/Time: Online

Classroom: Online

Requisites: Completion of, or co-requisite of 100W

Course Description: The class explores legal issues and individual and institutional discrimination/oppression of ethnic/cultural, women, religious minorities, gays, lesbians and trans persons in education, employment, criminal justice both past and present. The class will investigate the impact of mass incarceration, immigration and US Supreme Court decisions on diverse populations.

Students learn about the creation and maintenance of systemic oppression by the media. Students will be able to explain how historical power and gender theories are used to maintain durable inequality. We employ theories on maintenance of inequality and investigate theories on how to disrupt systems of inequality on a macro-cultural level. Historical oppressions are revealed, compared and discussed. The course examines social actions that seek to dismantle structures of inequality and oppression in the U.S. The class centers on student discussions, video lectures, documentaries and possible guest presenters.

General Education Goals and Student Learning Objectives

This course falls within the general education curriculum and as such, it has specific General Education Learning Outcomes:

GELO 1: Describe how identities (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age) are shaped by cultural and societal influences within the contexts of equality and inequality;

GELO 2: Describe historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U.S.;

GELO 3: Describe social actions which have led to greater equality and social justice in the U.S. (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age);

GELO 4: Recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups within the U.S.

Feel free to e

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
 - Students must request permission by email and shall not record until permission is granted.
 - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th

Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact information: 408.924.2910. Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>.

Course Outline*

*Please note: Outline is subject to change. Also class discussions and assignments could shift because of current events.

WEEK ONE - Introduction

Wednesday, Aug. 21: Class one: Introduction to class, syllabus overview, class policy set. Class one: DNA of skin color. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/04/race-genetics-science-africa/>

ASSIGNMENT: Personal essay due Friday Aug. 23

Monday, Sept. 9: how they work: Reading on how the American court system works.
“How does the Criminal Justice System Work?” and “Getting to know the U.S Court System”
<http://www.dummies.com/education/politics-government/getting-to-know-the-u-s-court-systems/>

Wednesday, Sept 11:

ASSIGNMENT: Alexander chapter 3 discussion board, answers due Friday, Sept. 13th

WEEK SIX – Examples of social change and regression continued

Monday, Sept. 16 – Supreme Court decision on prison overcrowding in California
lecture.

Wednesday, Sept. 18 – Court case outline. Challenges to the voting rights act. Shelby
versus Holder and the challenge to voting rights.

WEEK ELEVEN – Media

Oct. 23 – Robinson chapter, moral panic, *Myth of the liberal media*.

Oct. 25 – Trump, Fox and moral panic

Film Critique, *Myth of the liberal media* Due Friday, Oct. 27

WEEK TWELVE – Discretion.

Oct. 28 – Doll experiment,
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=black+doll+white+doll+experiment&&view=detail&list=mMD888mWix%2bdnA&FORM=VRPPLA>

Oct. 30– housing, criminal justice, employment, housing, education, surveillance lecture.

Discussion Board questions, due Friday, Nov. 1

WEEK THIRTEEN – Latinx

Nov. 4 *Latinos Beyond Reel*

Nov. 6. Latinx Terrorism article

Film Critique, *Latinos Beyond Reel*, Friday Nov. 8

WEEK FOURTEEN – Gender

Nov. 11 – Hegemonic masculinity and Donald Trump Lecture *Codes of gender*

Nov. 13 – The unnamed conspirator, *Rape Myths on Trial*

Film Critique due Friday, Nov. 13

WEEK FIFTEEN – LBGQTA,

Monday, Nov. 18 – *Paris is Burning*

Wednesday, Nov. 20 – Nefertitti Scott interview

WEEK SIXTEENTH– Solutions

Monday, Dec. 2 Contact Theory

Wednesday, Dec. 4 Whiteness

Monday, Dec. 9 Work on papers.

