

San José State University  
Department of Justice Studies  
JS 158, The Prison Community, Sec 01, Fall 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Judith Randle  
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Office Hours: R 10:30am -11:45am  
Class Days/Time: TR 1:30pm -2:45pm  
Classroom: MQH  
Prerequisites: Any 100W  
JS Competency Area: Local, Transnational, and Historical Analyses (D)

Note: Must achieve a grade of "C" or better to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements.

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: Identify the various penal systems throughout the United States.

CLO 2: Analyze the effects of the external social structure on the history of prisons and on the organization of the prison community.

CLO 3: Analyze formal and informal systems of organization and interaction among inmates and staff.

CLO 4: Identify and write about the critical issues facing the American prison system.

### Required Texts/Readings

#### Textbooks

Simon, J. (2014) Mass Incarceration on Trial: A Remarkable Court Decision and the Future of Prisons in America The New Press. ISBN: 9871595587695

Sykes, G. (2007) The Society of Captives Princeton University Press. ISBN: 9780691130644

#### Journal Articles, News Articles, and Book Excerpts

Journal articles, news articles and book excerpts are listed ~~on the Schedule~~ below and posted on the CANVAS website.

#### Websites, WebBased Videos, and WebBased Audio Files

*13th*: A documentary available on Netflix only. If you do not have a Netflix account, you must arrange to watch it using someone else's account or else sign up for a free trial.

*They Call Us Monsters*: A documentary available to rent on Amazon Prime, YouTube, iTunes, Google Play, Vudu, and Starz for under \$5.

Other free and publicly available website material, ~~web~~ videos, and ~~web~~ based audio files are listed on the ~~Course Schedule~~ below. Links are posted on the CANVAS website. You must have a computer with appropriate software to support video and audio playback,.

#### Library Liaison

Silke Higgins, [silke.higgins@sjsu.edu](mailto:silke.higgins@sjsu.edu) (408) 8082118  
<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

Your grade is derived from work in five (5) categories:

*Homework Assignments (14)* -- Homework Assignments (HW) are designed to help enhance your learning of the week's topic by: reviewing key information, learning new details about a topic, practicing the application of a rule, and/or making connections among concepts and readings. Homework assignments are completed at home and are designed so that you can complete them without having attended lecture (with the exception of HW7 & HW14, which will contain questions related to the guest speaker). You must upload an electronic copy to CANVAS by 1:30pm on the assigned date. Late submissions will incur a 10% penalty for each day late; after 1:30pm on the due date counts as day one. Each homework is worth approximately 15 points. (CLOs 1 – 4)

*On-call Q&A (2)* – On two (2) dates in the semester you will be called upon in class to answer questions about the material covered that day. You will be given themes, terms or questions in advance to help prepare you for questions that you may be asked. Your dates have been assigned in advance. I will accommodate reschedule requests received by July 29. If you do not attend lecture on the date shown, you cannot receive points for the Q&A, even in the event of illness or emergency. Each On-call Q&A day is worth 10 points. (CLOs 2 & 3)

*Quiz* – There is a multiple choice quiz at the end of Unit 1 that is worth approximately 30 points. (CLOs 1 & 2)

*Lecture Image (1)* – On one (1) day in the semester you will present to the class an image that you believe captures the essence of one or more topics of discussion in the previous two lecture periods. In addition to your in-class statement to the class, you must also submit a paragraph written statement on CANVAS. Your date has been assigned in advance. I will accommodate reschedule requests received by Feb 5. If you do not attend lecture on the date shown, you cannot receive points for this assignment, even in the event of illness or emergency. Your lecture image day is worth 20 points. (CLOs 1 – 4)

*Facility Tours or Related Assignments (2 of 3)* -- Tours of three local incarceration facilities are scheduled for this semester. You are expected to make every effort to attend them because of their direct relevance to this course. To earn credits students must attend two (2) tours or, if unable, complete a written assignment related to the toured facility. *Students may earn an additional 10 points by attending a third tour or completing a third written assignment.* The tour dates and times will be finalized during the first two weeks of the semester. Each tour or data set is worth 15 points. (CLOs 2 & 3)

TBD: Santa Cruz County Jail, 9am – 12pm

TBD: Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall: 9am – 12pm

TBD: San Quentin State Prison, 8am – 4pm

*Final Exam (1)* – The final exam is a multiple choice exam

C  
provide proof of interference and you may take an alternative version of the exam given in class.  
The final exam is worth approximately 40 points. (CLOs 3 & 4)

*Final Essay (1)* -- At the end of the course you turn in an essay that reflects on the nature of incarceration as a response to crime. The essay is worth 60 points. (CLOs 3 & 4)

Other Course Work:

*Class Exercises* --





5	R 9/19	QUIZ
UNIT 2: PRISON SUBCULTURES		
T 9/24	<u>The Prison as a Social System</u> Sykes: Introduction & Ch. 1 Due: HW4	

	R 10/31	<u>Solitary Confinement &amp; Control Units: Madrid v. Gomez</u> MIOT: Ch. 2 CANVAS Reading: "Psychiatric Effects of Long Term Solitary Confinement" (Grassian) Due: HW10
12	T 11/5	<u>Chronic Overcrowding &amp; Health Deterioration: Coleman v. Wilson &amp; Plata v.</u>