San José State University Department of Justice Studies! JS189-01, Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, Spring 2019

Course and Contact Information

Justice Studies Department Reading and Writing Philosophy

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives–personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of

Required Textbook

Bohm, Robert M. and Walker, Jeffery T. (2013). Demystifying Crime & Criminal Justice (2nd Edition). OXFORD ISBN: 978-0-19-984383-1

Students may purchase texts in the bookstore and online.

Library Liaison

Silke Higgins, <u>silke.higgins@sjsu.edu</u>, (408) 808-2118 <u>http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies</u>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course 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.

Weekly Assignments

Students will be assigned weekly reading and writing assignments in class and as reflected below. Weekly Assignments are due during every other Wednesday class session, or as instructed, and will consist of a two-to-three paged double spaced typed analysis in 12-point font. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Group Project

Students will be assigned to work in groups and are expected to participate in a professional and respectful

3 February Assign Final Paper (DUE NO LATER THAN 5/13); Sovereignty: 11 & 13 8 March
8 Security: Surveillance, Pit Bulls & Crime Prevention Through Environmental
18 & 20
18 besign; Broken-Windows and Labeling Theories; Read Chapters 4 & 5: The
Myths That Violent Juveniles Will Become Adult Criminals & That of
Black Crime; Prepare, submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment
#4: Review Questions #2 (p 46), #2 (p 56) & Profile: Cesare Lombroso

- 13AprilBegin Group Presentations; Self-Incrimination: Confessions, Miranda &
Contemporary Custodial Interrogation; Good Cops, Bad Cops & The Thin Blue
Line; Read Chapters 16 & 17: The Myths Surrounding Policewomen on
Patrol & That Police Use of Force Is Widespread; Prepare, submit and be
ready to discuss Weekly Assignment # 6: Review Questions #3 (p 176), #2 (p
183) & Profile: Chief Penny E. Harrington (1943) + Week 12 #'s; In-class
exercise:
- 14April 29Group Presentations; Fair Trial: Right to Counsel, Peers as Jurors & Impartial
& May 1& May 1Judges; Richmond, CA: Homicide Rates, Officer Involved Shootings & Black