San José State University Department of Justice Studies JS12-05, Introduction to Legal Studies, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Greg Woods, J.D.

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM, and by email appointment;

Invitations/Zoom links through Canvas under Announcements.

Class Days/Time: Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM live streamed Zoom lectures;

Recordings of all class sessions are on Canvas under Files.

Classroom: On Line; Invitations/Zoom links to live lectures through Canvas under

Announcements.

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 careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

Course Description

The course presents historical and modern perspectives of the theories and structures of law, and provides an overview of the economic and sociological challenges to law making. This course also examines the nexus between law, social change, and dispute resolution. 3 Units.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

- 1. Demonstrate a general understanding of the fundamental influences society has on the law.
- 2. Demonstrate knowledge of legislative, administrative and judicial law making, as well as a general understanding of the law making processes.
- 3. Develop an understanding of methods for analyzing the legal and social controls and dispute resolution.
- 4. Understand the various aspects of the legal profession and methods for legal research.
- 5. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

Students are invited to participate on Zoom during live lectures in an informed, professional and respectful manner, check in during virtual office hours at least once during our semester, and consistently submit quality work in a timely manner. Participation credit will also be rewarded in response to student preparedness and politeness during online class sessions. (CLO 2 & 3)

Grading Policy

Final grades will be evaluated as follows:

| Weekly Assignments (8) | 30% |
|------------------------|-----|
| Quizzes (7) | 30% |
| Final Examination | 30% |
| Participation | 10% |

Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100

B = 80 to 89

C = 70 to 79

D = 60 to 69

F = 59 and below.

Please Note: Extra credit will not be awarded, late assignments and quizzes will not be accepted for credit.

Students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades. Students are encouraged to review their progress in person no later than Week Eight (Wednesday, October 7th) and periodically throughout the semester during office hours, and by appointment.

Classroom Protocol

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

JS12-05 / Introduction to Legal Studies, Fall 2020 Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines | | |
|------|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | August 19 | Introductions/Course overview; Syllabus, Class, Assignment, Qu Examination formats; Historical Foundations of Justice; Legal, C Social Justice; State & Federal Constitutions; Structure & Source of the Legal System in the United States; <i>Assign Weekly Assignm</i> 8/26). | Criminal & es of Authority | |
| 2 | August 24 & 26 | Dark Figure of Crime; Relationships between Law Enforcement, Correctional Systems; Distinguishing Crimes & Torts; The Study Criminology, & Criminal Justice; Reporting & Measuring Crimin Uniform Crime Report, National Crime Victim Survey & Law En Education Program; Read Chapter 1: An Introduction To Law (pgs 1-42); Review Terminology (p 42); Prepare, Submit and discuss Weekly Assignment #1; Assign Quiz #1 (Due 9/9 with Massignment #2). | of nal Behavior; nforcement and Society be ready to | |
| 3 | August 31 & September 2 | | | |
| | | J (43-67); C 2: (66). | | |
| 4 | September 9 (No Class Monday the 7th, Happy Labor Day!) | Socialization, Subcultures & Stratification; Insanity, Obscenity, Prurient Behavior, Drugs & Evolving Community Standards; Sobriety Checkpoints & Gun Control; Read Chapter 3: The Structure and Function of Courts, Legislatures, and Administrative Agencies (pgs 69-131); Review Terminology (p 132); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #2: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-6 (p 42), 1-11 (p 67), 1-11 (p 132) and Quiz #1. | | |
| 5 | September 14 & 16 | Review Quiz #1; Conflict, Consensus & Labeling; Rational Choi | ce, Routine | |

| 6 | September 21 & 23 | Retributive & Restorative Models of Justice; Balancing Individual & Community Demands; Expectations of Equal Protection, Procedural & Substantive Due Process; Black Lives Matter & Officer Involved Shootings; Read Chapter 5: Access to Justice and Legal Ethics (pgs 178-208); Review Terminology (p 208); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #3: Chapter Review Questions: 1-8 (pgs 176-177), 1-7 (p 208) and Quiz #2. |
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| 7 | September 28 & 30 | Review Quiz #2; Parens Patriae, Delinquency & Approaches to Juvenile Justice; School Bullying & Status Offenses; Recidivism; Read Chapter 6: Dispute Resolution (pgs 209-242); Review Terminology (p 242); Assign Quiz #3 (Due 10/7 with Weekly Assignment #4). |
| 8 | October 5 & 7 | Incarceration Rates & Alternatives to Incarceration; Parole, Probation & Expungement; Jails, Prisons, Home Detention & Diversion Programs; Read Chapter 7: Criminal Courts (pgs 243-273); Review Terminology (p 273); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #4: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-8 (p 242), 1-7 (p 273) and Quiz #3. |
| 9 | October 12 & 14 | Review Quiz #3; Habeas Corpus & Key Constitutional Rights of the 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th & 14th Amendments; Reasonable Suspicion & Probable Cause; Stop & Frisk; Search & Seizure; Valid Warrants; Custodial Interrogation; Effective Assistance of Counsel & Plea Agreements; Exclusionary Rule & Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doc2 (&) 007,5 0 1BDC Q q 3h, |

13 November 9
(No Class
Wednesday
the 11th,
Happy
Veter an's
Day!)

Review Quiz #5; Community Engagement; Escalation & Deescalations of Force; Alternatives to Lethal Force; Broken Windows, Predictive Policing, Crime Mapping, Body Cameras & Crisis Intervention Training; Read Chapter 11: Law and Racial and Ethnic Equality (pgs 441-501); Review Terminology (p 502); Assign Quiz #6 (Due 11/18 with Weekly Assignment #7).