

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS 189-05 Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, Fall 2020**

**Course and Contact Information**

**Instructor:** Dina M. Kameda, M.S., M.A.

**Office Location:**





Students are prohibited from writing on a topic that has been used for previous course, or currently being used for another course. Any attempt to violate this requirement will result in an automatic “F” for the paper, which ultimately will result in failing the course. Such an attempt would constitute a violation of the Academic Integrity policy.

This paper will include a review of scholarly literature on an approved topic. Students will be required to not only o

**A grade of “C” (i.e., at least 73%) is required to pass this course.**

#### **Department of Justice Studies Course Grade Determination**

<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>
98.0 to 100	A plus	80.0 to 82.99	B minus	63 to 67.99	D
93.0 to 97.99	A	78 to 79.99	C plus	00.0 to 62.99	F
90.0 to 92.99	A minus	73.0 to 77.99	C		
88.0 to 89.99	B plus	70 .0 to 72.99	C minus		
83 to 87.99	B	68.00 to 69.99	D plus		

#### **Department of Justice Studies 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.

#### **Overview of Participation – What constitutes participation for an online course?**

In order to participate in an online course, one must: (1) regularly access the Canvas page for the course; (2) pay close attention to the module prerequisites (i.e., what must be accomplished before accessing the next module) and module completion requirements; (3) be very mindful of due dates and times for all time-restricted components of the course; and (4) carefully read the syllabus, fully read all announcements made by the instructor via Canvas, read all directions for course components. Beyond the completion of assigned readings, sufficient time must be spent contemplating the material for the purpose of being prepared to participate in class discussions and complete other assignments.

#### **University Policies**

University Policies: Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. You may find all syllabus related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP’s Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

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The following course schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be provided via an announcement on Canvas and/or during class as early as possible.

**Table 1 Course Schedule**

Week	Date	Agenda/Topics, Readings/Homework, Exams and Deadlines
1	08/20/20	Course introduction Overview of assignments and expectations Overview of Discussion Lead assignment <b>Reading for today:</b> Syllabus
2	08/25/20	Review of requirements for Topic Materials Detailed policy paper expectations (Part 1)
2	08/27/20	Detailed policy paper expectations (Part 2)
3	09/01/20	Policy analysis discussion
3	09/03/20	Policy analysis discussion
4	09/08/20	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 1 and Topic 2 <b>Due today:</b> MITs for Topic 1 and Topic 2 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM) <b>Due today:</b> Current Event 1 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
4	09/10/20	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 3 and Topic 4 <b>Due today:</b> MITs for Topic 3 and Topic 4 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
5	09/15/20	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 5 and Topic 6 <b>Due today:</b> MITs for Topic 5 and Topic 6 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM) <b>Due today:</b> Current Event 2 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
5	09/17/20	Current Event 1 and 2 Class Discussion
6	09/22/20	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 7 and Topic 8 <b>Due today:</b> MITs for Topic 7 and Topic 8 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM) <b>Due today:</b> Current Event 3 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
6	09/24/20	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 9 and Topic 10 <b>Due today:</b> MITs for Topic 9 and Topic 10 (Upload copy to Canvas by 11:59 PM)



<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Agenda/Topics, Readings/Homework, Exams and Deadlines</b>
14	11/19/20	Policy Paper Presentations (3)
<b>15</b>	<b>11/24/20</b>	<i>Instructor Personal Holiday</i>
<b>15</b>	<b>11/26/20</b>	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
16	12/01/20	Policy Paper Presentations (3)
16	12/03/20	Policy Paper Presentations (3)
Final	12/11/20	Policy Paper Presentations (5)