San José State University Department of Justice Studies JS10-80, Introduction to Justice Studies, Spring, 2020

Course and Contact Information

Course Description

Introduction to Justice Studies examines the historical and philosophical development of the justice system; description, analysis and evaluation of criminal justice agencies, and explores the relationship between theory and practice in the United States. Note: Students must achieve a grade of "C" or better (not C-) to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements. 3 Units

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on

- 4 Natural Law; Legislative Solutions to Society's Problems; Constitutional Fidelity & Access to Justice; Read Chapter 3: Concepts of Legal Philosophy (pgs 68-93); Review Key Terms (p 68); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #2: Responses to Questions (pgs 75 & 92 + Week 3 #'s); Quiz #1.
- 5 Return/Review Assignment/Quiz #1; Socialization, Subcultures & Stratification; Insanity, Obscenity, Prurient Behavior, Drugs & Evolving Community Standards; Sobriety Checkpoints & Gun Control; Read Chapter 4: Deviance and Social Control (pgs 96-122); Review Key Terms (p 100); Prepare and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment: Responses to Questions (pgs 108 & 120)
- 6 Conflict, Consensus & Labeling; Rational Choice, Routine Activity & Differential Association; Penal Codes & Proportionate Criminal Liability; Read Chapter 5: Deviance and Criminal Behavior (pgs 124-148); Review Key Terms (p 124); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #3: Responses to Questions (pgs 133 & 147 + Week 5 #'s); Quiz #2.
- 7 Return/Review Assignment/Quiz #2; 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 6: Concepts of Justice (pgs 150-180); Review Key Terms (p 155); Prepare and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment: Responses to Questions (pgs 155, 159 & 165)
- 8 Parens Patriae, Delinquency & Approaches to Juvenile Justice; School Bullying & Status Offenses; In-class exercise; Read Chapter 7: Concepts of Justice Policy (pgs 182-208); Review Key Terms (p 182); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #4: Responses to Questions (pgs 200 & 201 + Week 7 #'s); Quiz #3
- 9 Return/Review Assignment/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 Doctrine; Read Chapter 8: Concepts of Criminal Procedure (pgs 210-240); Review Key Terms (p 210); Prepare and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment: Responses to Questions (pgs 217 & 229)
- 10 Malum In Se & Malum Prohibitum; Person, Property & Inchoate Crimes;