2. E-mailed inquiries should be relatively short in nature. Students should make an appointment to meet with me to discuss more extensive inquiries. Students will be referred to the course syllabus with respect to questions that are addressed by simply reading the syllabus.

# **Course Description**

Identification, discussion and analysis of selected problems in justice studies. A major term paper on a selected topic is required.

Prerequisite: Senior standing in final semester; Justice Studies or Forensic Science major; JS 100W and JS 114 with a "C or better"; Department Consent

Note: A grade of "C" or better is required for Justice Studies majors.

# **Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to [CLO1-5]:

- 1. Demonstrate their ability to complete a formal research paper that (a) synthesizes relevant scholarly sources; (b) reflects professional formatting and writing standards (APA format); (c) addresses relevant policy needs (such as necessary reforms) to solving tangible social problems; (d) somehow contributes to our collective understanding of concepts and approaches to "justice," however defined (social justice, criminal justice, community justice, and so forth).
- 2. Demonstrate their ability to present scholarly work to an audience of their peers.
- 3. Demonstrate a working understanding of "evidence-based" approaches to social problems and public policy. As a culminating skill set in our program, students should demonstrate their ability to apply social scientific (and otherwise rational) forms of reasoning, argumentation, research, and support in forming any particular worldview or position in the pursuit of "justice" and addressing social problems in our communities/societies.
- 4. Demonstrate their ability to undertake a critical analysis of a contemporary problems relevant to justice studies.
- 5. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level that appropriately reflects the cumulating experience of their justice studies major.

# **Required Texts/Readings**

# **Required Readings**

All course readings will be available online.

# **Library Liaison**

Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies

# **Course Requirements and Assignments**

#### **Out-of-Class Written Assignments**

General formatting requirements for written assignments include a cover page, page numbering, 1" margins, strict double-spacing, and Times New Roman 12pt. font. All assignments must be written in formal English, with college-level writing mechanics, and APA-style formatting, inclusive of in-text citations and references. Out-of-class written assignments must be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

# Students are 100% responsible for uploading the correct file when submitting an assignment. Failure to upload the correct file will result in a zero for the assignment.

#### **Current Event Submissions**

Students will be required to submit current event analyses relevant to our justice system. Each Current Event assignment will consist of a 1 to 2-page write-up that includes a short summary of a current event article, policy analysis of the issue or issues addressed, and the URL for the article reviewed. Current Event submissions will account for 10% of the final course grade. [CLO4-5]

#### **Discussion Lead**

Each student will be responsible for serving as the discussion lead on a predetermined topic posted on Canvas. [CLO 2-5]

A schedule of discussions will be provided prior to the end of the first week of class, and will tentatively begin on 02/10/20. Discussion leads are expected to offer substantive, original insights, and have questions ready to DosiO(0) (D) (D) (D) (D) (D)) (D) (D)) (D) (D)) (D)) (D)) (D) (D)) (D) (D)) (D)) (D) (D) (D)) (D) (D) (D) (D)) (D) (D

Each discussion will receive T	he	
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Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, JS189-01, Spring, 2020

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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 analyze and critique existing policies, but propose new or amended policies. The research reviewed must come from high quality justice-related journals, which establish and examine relationships between and among variables, concepts, theories, and policies. Based on the evidence reviewed, policy implications will be drawn.

A hand0 (0)]TJ0.004 Tcl beoriesoriecaontent, formatting, and submissrequirements will be provided in a timely manner. The Policy Paper will asorount for 30% of 4 0(or)-7 (i)final course@radel,[3-5]

# **Policy Paper Presentaton**

Students will be required give a <u>15 to 20-minuteo</u> rmal presentation of their policy papers, followed by a bref discuss [C4 6 (L4 )-1O 2]

The present2 (e)8-2 (c)4 ust include 4 0(or)-7 (i)following:

- 1. Introduction: Descrip8-2 (c)4 4 0(or)-7 (i)specimponic (i)-2 (e)nce of 4 0(or)-7 (i)topic, and 4 0(or)-7 (is)-1 ()4
- 2. Literature Revi4 6 (ew)TJ/TT1 1 Tf0 Tc 0 Tw 7.79 0 Td(:)Tj0.28 0 Td( )Tj0.002 Tc -0.002eEvT[hk)-1 (e)6 (la

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

Department of Justice Studies Course Grade Determination

Total PointsGradeTotal PointsGrade

# JS189-01 Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, Spring 2020

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Week	Date	Agenda/Topics, Readings/Homework, Exams and Deadlines
12	04/15/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)
13	04/20/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2) Due today: Current Event 8 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
13	04/22/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)
14	04/27/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2) Due today: Current Event 9 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
14	04/29/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)
15	05/04/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)Due today: Current Event 10 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
15	05/06/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)
16	05/11/20	Policy Paper Presentations (2)

Final 05/19/20