# San José State University

### **Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s):	Judith Randle, J.D. Ph.D.
Office Location:	MH 508
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Office Hours:	T/R 2:45 3:30pm
Class Days/Time:	T/R 1:30 2:45pm
Classroom:	MH 322
Prerequisites:	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 Description**

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

### **Course Format**

The mode of instruction for this course is in person with online supplements. All written assignments will be submitted via Canvas, and must be in Microsoft Word (\*.doc or \*.docx). If you do not currently own Microsoft Word, the software (both PC and Mac) is available for free to students: http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/microsoft-students/index.html. Copies of course materials will be posted on Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking your e-mail and Canvas regarding announcements, reminders, and any additional course materials.

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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) add synthe a7(e)7(s)-60009

- 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**

#### **Readings Posted on CANVAS**

There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, you will be assigned weekly readings by the instructor and by your fellow students.

#### **Other technology requirements / equipment / material**

Reliable access to a computer and the internet will be required.

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

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.

# **Topical Presentation, Assignment, and Discussion Lead**

Each student will be responsible for

student has three responsibilities [CLO 2-5]

A 30-minute oral presentation in class containing a) a visual component and b) discussion questions (60 mins if done in a pair or 75 mins if done in a group of three). While the professor may help moderate, students are responsible for moderating and leading the discussion. (3)

3. Policy Critique and Implications: A critique of current policies, based upon the literature, in terms of the implications of their effectiveness/ineffectiveness, and suggestions about alternative policies. This critique should pull upon findings in the literature

# **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9 (*http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf*), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available

Week Date