

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS100W-80, Writing Workshop, Summer 2020

Course and Contact Information

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

Development of advanced communication skills, both written and oral. Emphasis on writing formats used by criminal justice professionals. A scholarly paper, written in APA format and informed by research, will be required. GE Area: Z Prerequisite: A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of C- or better); Completion of core GE, satisfaction of Writing Skills Test and upper division standing. Allowed Declared Major: Justice Studies. Note: Must be passed with C or better (not C-) to satisfy the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment requirement (GWAR). 3 Units.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

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3. Write reports, assignments, and papers with professional and academic aptitude demonstrating a familiarity of class materials.
4. Read academic materials with proficiency.
5. Contribute to class discussion in thoughtful, critical, and collaborative ways.
6. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

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Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	July 6 & 8	Introductions/Course overview; Our Virtual Classroom (Zoom!), Weekly Assignment, Situation Analysis & Final Project Formats; Persuasive & Informative writing in general; Approaches to Critical Thinking; the Five-Sentence Paragraph; the American Psychological Association (APA) citation style format; Writing Basics: Effective Thesis and Issue Statements; The Percipient & Expert witness; Jurisdictional Structures; Identifying and articulating key facts; Employing the SARA Model (Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment/Evaluation) and the IRAC Method (Issue, Rule, Analysis, and Conclusion) to perfect writAeF (t) 0.2rictinal Jc0.2 () 00.2 (i) d Con

- 3 July 20 & 22 **Return and review Weekly Assignment #2;** Distinguishing facts from opinion; Writing Basics: Case Brief and Memorandum formats; Motions & Pleadings; Return and review Assignment #6; Writing Basics: Use Plain Language; Objective & Subjective Standards; Writing Basics: Be Concise, Less is More; Documentation & Memorialization; Writing Basics: Think Loose and Write Tight; **Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #3 (DUE 7/22) and Situation Analysis (DUE 7/22); Assign Weekly Assignment #4 (DUE 7/29); Voluntary one-on-one consultations;** In-class exercises:
- 4 July 27 & 29 **Return and review Situation Analysis & Weekly Assignment #3;** Qualities of a superior investigator; Writing Basics: Plagiarizing is a Bad Idea; Writing Basics: Edit with Fresh Eyes; Problem identification & Solution proposal; Writing Basics: Expect to Rewrite; **Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #4 (DUE 7/29); Final Project (DUE 8/5); Voluntary one-on-one consultations;** In-class exercise: