

San José State University

Welcome to JS 185 Special Topics Forensic Social Sciences, Section 80!

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s): Stephen J. Morewitz, Ph.D.

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(Please use only the SJSU email system)

Class Days/Time: TTH, 4-5:15 PM

investigations; 3) testifying and consulting in civil, criminal, immigration, human rights, and military court cases; 4) analyzing the justice and political systems, and 5) providing forensic social sciences expertise to media.

Subjects examined in this exciting and fast-paced course include: career information and employment trends, ethics, legal standards and regulations, forensic counseling and therapy, government testimony, forensic social sciences evidence in court cases involving suicide, medical malpractice, product liability, human factors, toxic tort, personal injury, and child custody. Other topics include neuropsychology, forensic criminology, forensic anthropology, forensic archaeology, human rights, asylum, war crimes, forensic economic damages assessments, probation officers, parole officers, correctional officers, forensic mental health professionals, and trial strategies such as jury selection, mock trials, and trial observations. The student is challenged to come to grips with the diverse roles and impact of the interdisciplinary forensic social scientists and allied professionals in the justice system and to be prepared to serve as forensic social sciences policy makers, correctional officers, probation officers, parole officers, forensic mental health professionals, justice system analysts/researchers, expert witnesses, and consultants.

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts an online, synchronous (live lectures) classroom delivery format using Zoom conferencing. Students should have Internet connectivity, camera, or other technology requirements, such as computer, special hardware devices or software apps to use Zoom conferencing technology and submit online assignments. See University Policy F13-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details. Students should submit a SJSU Helpdesk ticket if they are having difficulty with their course technology requirements.

Recordings

All Zoom class sessions will be audio recorded and posted on Canvas. Class exercises and projects may also be recorded. Students may not share these recordings with anyone outside of the class. Students may not record any class sessions or course materials without permission of the instructor.

Course Materials on Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal <http://one.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas, please go to https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources/index.html

Course Goals

Provide students with a thorough guide to the roles, careers, employment trends, context, legal regulations, ethics, and possible impact of forensic social scientists, allied professionals, and organizations in the U.S. and other countries in

- 1) assisting in enacting policies and laws
- 2) conducting criminal and civil investigations
- 3) testifying and consulting in civil, criminal, immigration, human rights, and military court cases
- 4) analyzing the justice and political systems, and
- 5) providing forensic social sciences expertise to media.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO 1 Critically evaluate the definition of forensic social sciences

CLO 2 Identify concepts, theories, methods, and ethics related to the use of forensic social sciences testimony and consulting in civil, criminal, immigration, human rights, and military law court cases

CLO 3 Critically evaluate the roles, ethics, standards, regulations, policies, and impact of forensic social scientists and allied professionals in civil and criminal investigations

CLO 4 Identify forensic social sciences concepts, theories, methods, and ethics associated with government testimony and policy making

CLO 5 Describe the roles of social sciences organizations in litigation and policy making

CLO 6 Critically assess the concepts and theories employed in investigating justice and political systems outcomes

CLO 7 Identify the impact of the media on immigration courts

CLO 8 Critically compare forensic social sciences in different countries

CLO 9 Critically assess the roles and impact of forensic social scientists and allied professionals as media experts

Required Textbook: None

Other Readings (See other links in the Course Schedule)

Teaching Methods

Class time will be devoted to lecturing, in-class exercises, debates, role plays, student-generated multiple-choice test items, student lectures, video presentations, and student small group discussion in Zoom Breakout Rooms. Other teaching methods include enrichment materials and Q and A sessions.

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Midterm (Multiple-choice and True/False Test Items) (25% of total grade) (Midterm on 10.5.21)

2. (25% of total grade) (Due: 11.30.21)

- a. Select an actual government hearing involving testimony by a forensic social scientist
- b. Describe the expert opinion of the forensic social scientist
- c. Analyze the forensic social sciences theories, research methods, and findings that formed the basis of the forensic social scientist expert opinion using at least six peer-review articles and books
- d. methods, and findings used in the forensic social sciences expert testimony
- e. Critically assess any potential ethical and testimony
- f. Write a 10-typed page report with the above components, double-space, title page, and list of at least six peer-review references using only the APA format for in-text citations and reference list
- g. Each team records a Team Zoom Video of their report findings
- h. Each student submits a s0 G[9hneW*nBT/F1 12 59 Ti(12 0 612 792 reW*nB2)JTJETQq0.00000912 0 612 792 re

4. Weekly Class Assignments (25% of total grade)

During the semester, students complete weekly class assignments and submit their answers to the designated Discussion Forums. Assignments can include chapter exercises, test item construction, debates, diaries, presentations, quizzes, homework, and/or required responses to a Discussion Forum prompt based on the readings covered that week.

Assignments and any group work must be completed by the following Thursday by 11:30 PM, unless indicated otherwise by the instructor. In-class work will include critically analyzing information from the readings, videos, student presentations, as well as class lecture and discussion.

CLO 1 Critically evaluate the definition of forensic social sciences

CLO 2 Identify concepts, theories, methods, and ethic related to the use of forensic social sciences testimony and consulting in civil, criminal, immigration, human rights, and military law court cases

CLO 3 Critically evaluate the roles, ethics, standards, regulations, policies, and impact of forensic social scientists and allied professionals in civil and criminal investigations

CLO 4 Identify forensic social sciences concepts, theories, methods, and ethics associated with government testimony and policy making

CLO 5 Describe the roles of social sciences organizations in litigation and policy making

CLO 6 Critically assess the concepts and theories employed in investigating justice and political systems outcomes

CLO 7 Identify the impact of the media on immigration courts

CLO 8 Critically compare forensic social sciences in different countries

CLO 9 Critically assess the roles and impact of forensic social scientists and allied professionals as media experts

of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction,

Classroom Protocol

Participation and Attendance:

Attendance is important for student learning and success. Please do not leave class early. If you miss class, you are responsible for contacting classmates to make up the work. In addition, you must review the Canvas

Week/Lesson Date Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
/Module



Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	Learning Outcomes
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Forensic Social Sciences in Israel

The role of mental health practitioners' testimony in the Israeli Supreme Court

Forensic Social Science Testimony in Australia

Analysis of the justice and political systems-France

Dr. Martine Evans et al. Interventions with Violent Extremists in France

Paris Institute of Criminology and Criminal Law

Role and Effects of Social Scientists in Criminal and Civil Investigations

Analysis of the justice and political systems

Decision to Arrest Strategy for Suspected Terrorists-France

Week/Lesson Date Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
/Module

**Learning
Outcomes**

Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	Learning Outcomes
7	10.7; 10.1 2	<p>Child Custody, Abuse, and Neglect and the Justice System</p> <p>Children as Witnesses in Child Abuse Litigation</p> <p>Reliability of Child Testimony in Court</p> <p>Child Abuse and Neglect Cases</p> <p>Child Sexual Abuse Litigation</p> <p>Impact of Spouse Abuse on Children and Its Relevance in Custody and Visitation Decisions in New York State</p> <p>Preventing Elder Abuse Through Education and Litigation</p>	<p><i>CLO 1</i></p> <p><i>CLO 2</i></p> <p><i>CLO 3</i></p> <p><i>CLO 4</i></p>
8	10.1 4; 10.1 9	<p>Forensic Social Scientists, Allied Professionals, and Psychological Evaluations</p> <p>PTSD-Related Litigation</p>	<p><i>CLO 1</i></p> <p><i>CLO 2</i></p> <p><i>CLO 3</i></p> <p><i>CLO 5</i></p>
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Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	Learning Outcomes
		Human Factors-Related Lawsuits Impact of Human Factors Experts on Medical Device Litigation Forensic Social Science Testimony in Employment Cases	<i>CLO 6</i>
11	11.4; 11.9	Forensic Social Sciences in Civil Law: Forensic Social Sciences Evidence in Education Litigation	<i>CLO 1</i> <i>CLO 3</i> <i>CLO 6</i> <i>CLO 7</i>
12	11.1 1 NO CLA SS); 11.1 6	Forensic Social Science Data in Trademark Litigation Review for Expert Witness Testimony in Court Case Forensic Anthropology and Criminal Investigations Evaluating the Role of Forensic Anthropologists in Human Rights Investigations of Missing Persons	<i>CLO 1</i> <i>CLO</i> <i>CLO 3</i> <i>CLO 4m BDC</i>

Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	Learning Outcomes
		Forensic Counselors and Therapists	

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Forensic Social Sciences Analysis of the Use of Forensic DNA and other Forensic Sciences Tools

Forensic Social Sciences Analysis of the Impact of Government Funding on Forensic Sciences

CLO 1

CLO 2

CLO 3

CLO 4

CLO 5

CLO 6

CLO 7

CLO 8

CLO 9