

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 189-02 Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, Fall 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:

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.

A handout detailing the expectations, content, formatting, and submission requirements will be provided in a timely manner. The Policy Paper will account for 30% of the final course grade. [

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82.9</i>	<i>80 to 82.9%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>78 to 79.9</i>	<i>78 to 79.9%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 77.9</i>	<i>73 to 77.9%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72.9</i>	<i>70 to 72.9%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>68 to 69.9</i>	<i>68 to 69.9%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 67.9</i>	<i>63 to 67.9%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62.9</i>	<i>60 to 62.9%</i>

Department of Justice Studies 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

Week	Date	Agenda/Topics, Readings/Homework, Exams and Deadlines
8	10/05/21	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 15 and Topic 16 Due today: Current Event 5 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
8	10/07/21	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 17 and Topic 18
9	10/12/21	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 19 and Topic 20 Due today: Current Event 6 (Upload to Canvas by 11:59 PM)
9	10/14/21	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 21 and Topic 22
10	10/19/21	Discussion Leads (2): Topic 23 and Topic 24
10	10/21/21	Policy Paper check-in class discussion
11	10/26/21	Policy Paper check-in class discussion

Week	Date	Agenda/Topics, Readings/Homework, Exams and Deadlines
Final	12/10/21	Policy Paper Presentations (6) 7:15 AM – 9:30 AM