

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Department of Justice Studies
JS 128-01, Punishment, Culture, and Society Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor :	Natalie Birthelmer
Office Location:	HB 125
Telephone	(408) 9242753 x42753- email is the best way to reach me!
Email:	natalie.birthelmer@sjsu.edu
Office Hours	Tuesday 9:30-11:30am, email for Zoom appointment
Class Days/Time	M/W 10:30AM-11:45AM
Classroom	Canvas / Zoom
Prerequisites	Upper Division Standing

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a synchronous online delivery format with a M/W meeting pattern. You must have access to a webcam during scheduled class time. Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet) with a camera and built-in microphone. SJSU has a [free equipment loan program](#) available for students. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi tests. If students are unable to have reliable Wi-Fi, they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible or at the latest one week before the test date to determine an alternative. See [Learn Anywhere website](#) for current WiFi options on campus. All course work will take place on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. See [University Policy E21a](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/E21a.pdf> for more.

at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU Spartan App Portal](#) at <http://one.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Critical analysis of the cultural, political and economic dimensions of penal politics in contemporary American society, with particular reference to the relationships between criminal justice and social justice. Emphasis on issues of racial, economic, and gender inequality.

Pre/Corequisite: Any 100w

Note: Must achieve a grade [(N).CC "C(s)-1" ([((r)5 b(d)2 (e)6t (te)6 (r)5 t([((N).CC (u)2lf)-5.)-1 ll J M)1 (u.

1. Confidently discuss the cultural, political and economic dimensions of penal politics in contemporary American society

Research Paper (CLO3)

In teams of two (2) you will choose a topic related to punishment as a reflection of culture and society. You will write a research paper on this topic together (you can choose to split up the tasks or pages, but your paper must be cohesive, which means you have to read it, and FIX each other's portions of the paper).

A handout detailing the expectations, content, formatting, and submission requirements will be provided on Canvas.

Students must reference any sources in APA formatting. Students should refer to an APA style guide or the Online Writing Lab (OWL) from Purdue University at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/> if unclear about APA guidelines.

Presentation(CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

You will present your research to the class as a team using a power point or other digital format. Your presentation will include an introduction, as well as the 4 prompts I provided for the literature review. You must ensure that the class is fully engaged with your presentation by providing open ended discussion questions following the presentation of your topic. Make sure to use media clips to keep presentation interesting. Your discussion of the material should be thoughtful and invite participation by all students. You will receive both individual and group grades. Further instructions and expectations will be discussed.

Midterm Examination or Evaluation (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

The midterm will cover weeks 6-8. It will be open notes, and include multiple choice, short, and long answer questions.

Final Examination or Evaluation (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

The final exam will cover weeks 15-17. It will be open notes, and include multiple choice, short, and long answer questions. The final exam will be taken at the time of the scheduled class final on Canvas.

Technical difficulties during exams

- Internet connection issues:

Canvas autosaves responses a few times per minute as long as there is an internet connection.

If your internet connection is lost, Canvas will warn you but allow you to continue working on your exam. A brief loss of internet connection is unlikely to cause you to lose your work.

However, a longer loss of connectivity or weak/unstable connection may jeopardize your exam.

- Other technical difficulties:

Immediately email the instructor a current copy of the state of your exam and explain the problem you are facing. Your instructor may not be able to respond immediately or provide technical support. However, a copy of your exam and email will provide a record of the situation. Additionally, you must contact IT services immediately and include a case number in your email to the instructor.

- Contact the SJSU technical support for Canvas:

Technical Support for Canvas

Email: ecampus@sjsu.edu

Phone: (408) 924-3337

<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/>

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for

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6. Use Appropriate Virtual Backgrounds: If using a virtua

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The following schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be posted as early as possible on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	W – 1/27	Introduction & Review of Syllabus
2	M – 2/1 W – 2/3	Bosworth: Introduction Canvas: Brown, M. (2009) Penal spectatorship and the cultural work of punishment. Canvas: Former prisons as hotels

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	M – 3/29	<i>Spring Break</i>
	W – 3/31	<i>Spring Break</i>
3. Changing Punishment		
11	M – 4/5	Canvas: Hoidal, A. (2018). Normality behind the walls: Examples from Halden Prison <i>Breaking the Cycle</i>
	W – 4/7	Cullen: Chapter 7. The Safe Prison. Discussion of <i>Breaking the Cycle</i>
12	M – 4/12	Research Paper due Cullen: Chapter 2. The Restorative Prison
	W – 4/14	Canvas: Subramanian, R. & Shames, A. (2013). Sentencing and Prison Practices in Germany and the Netherlands: Implications for the United States.
13	M – 4/19	Cullen: Chapter 11. The Small Prison
	W – 4/21	Canvas: Gray, A. (2018). This Brazilian prison gives inmates the keys to their cells.
14	M – 4/26	Cullen: Chapter 10. The Green Prison
	W – 4/28	Cullen: Chapter 3. Lessons Learned: From Penal Harshness to Penal Help
15	M – 5/3	