

San José State University

College of Social Sciences Department of Justice Studies
JS 156-02, Gangs, Criminal Syndicates & Justice 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:	nataliebirthelmer@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesday 9:30-11:30, email for Zoom appointment
Class Days/Time	Online
Classroom	Canvas
Prerequisites	Upper Division Standing

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts an online delivery format. All course work will take place on [Canvas Learning Management System](https://www.canvaslms.com/) course login website <http://sjsu.instructure.com>.

See [University Policy F13](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13->

2. Understand and explain theories of gang formation. (CLO2)
3. Make critical assessments of and draw logical conclusions about the influence of socioeconomic factors and political climate on gangs and criminal syndicates. (CLO3)

“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 lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Grading Information

Department of Justice Studies Course Grade Determination

Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade
98.0 to 100	A plus	84.0 to 87.99	B	71.0 to 73.99	C minus

academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Visit the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](#) website for more information.

Plagiarism: San José State University defines plagiarism as the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving appropriate credit, regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism includes:

- o 1.2.1 Knowingly or unknowingly incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work;
- o 1.2.2 Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawing, sculptures, or similar works as one's own.

Sanctions: There shall be two major classifications of sanctions that may be imposed for violations of this policy: Academic and Administrative. Academic sanctions are actions related to the coursework or grades determined by the faculty member. Administrative sanctions are actions that address a student's status on campus and are determined by the Office of Student Conduct & Ethical Development. Academic sanctions and Administrative sanctions may be imposed simultaneously.

To ensure compliance with academic integrity policies, all work in this class must be turned in through Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection service with which San José State University contracts. Students are responsible for ensuring their work is accepted and evaluated by Turnitin.com. Inability to do so will lead to an incomplete grade for affected assignments. In case plagiarism is detected once, the plagiarized assignment will receive a failing grade. If plagiarism is detected multiple times, students will receive a failing grade for the course.

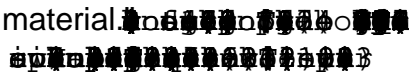
Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately by emailing me or by making an appointment with me as soon as possible. [Presidential Directive 903](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center \(AEC\)](#) to establish a record of their disability.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S17](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor, you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”



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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 not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

