# San José State University Department of Justice Studies JS 103, Courts & Society, Section 80, Fall 2022 (Online)

Instructor:	Harold W. Peterson	
Office Location:	MQH 508	
Email:	harold.peterson@sjsu.edu	
Office Hours:	Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10:30AM to 11:30AM	
	(online by appointment only)	
Class Days/Time/Location:	Online	

# Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as the syllabus, assignments, exams, grades, and important announcements can be found on the course Canvas page, accessed at: <a href="https://idp01.sjsu.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword">https://idp01.sjsu.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword</a>

You are responsible for any information posted on Canvas. It is recommended that you log in regularly and check for Announcements.

### **Course Description**

As an introduction to American criminal courts, their history, purpose and process, this course will survey the federal and state courts, their general constitutional structure and function with an emphasis on procedures, including criminal investigations, arrest, arraignment, grand jury, indictment, pretrial, trial, conviction, acquittal, sentencing and appeal. In addition, the course will examine the role of prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges and probation officers throughout the criminal courts in the United States.

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

A grade 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 careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared

# **Assignments and Grading Policy**

Chapter Prompts – For each chapter, the instructor will post questions for students to respond. Generally, the questions require a response that shows that the student understands the course material. Responses for the short essay prompts must be no longer than 150 words. Please dedicate time to this course. **DO NOT FALL BEHIND**.

The purposes of the prompts are:

- 1) To have students think critical regarding issues.
- 2) To keep the students on track and focused on the course material. The Critical Thinking Prompts will cover one or two chapter from the text. Students must submit their responses daily. The instructor will not accept late assignments.

Examinations – There will be a midterm and a final examination. Each will consist of approximately 40 multiple-choice questions and two (2) short-answer/essay questions. These will be open from (midterm on Monday, July 10, 2017, to Friday, July 14, 2017, and the final on Friday, August 11, 2017 to Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at midnight. The examinations will be timed. Students will have approximately 75 minutes to complete the exam.

Class Participation Points for class participation will be awarded pursuant to the quantity and quality of the stud NOTE

Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

# **Learning Assistance Resource Center**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at <a href="http://www.sisu.edu/larc">http://www.sisu.edu/larc</a>.

# **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter">http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter</a>.

### **Peer Mentor Center**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators,

out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor">http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor</a>.

### **Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center provides advising for undergraduate students majoring or wanting to major in programs offered in the Departments and Schools.

All students and students who would like to be in the center are invited to stop by the Center for general education advising, help with changing majors, academic policy related questions, meeting with peer advisors, and/or attending various regularly scheduled presentations and workshops. Looking for academic advice or maybe just some tips about how to navigate your way around SJSU?

Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact

information: 408.924.2910. Website: http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/.

SEE COURSE SCHEDULE UNDER THE SYLLABUS TAB ON CANVAS.