Grading Scale for All Assignments

| A plus | 97-100 |
|---------|---------|
| A | 94-96.9 |
| A minus | 90-93.9 |
| B plus | 87-89.9 |
| В | 84-86.9 |
| B minus | 80-83.9 |
| C plus | 77-79.9 |
| C | 74-76.9 |
| C minus | 70-73.9 |
| D plus | 67-69.9 |
| D | 64-66.9 |
| D minus | 60-63.9 |
| F | <60 |

All assignments are graded based on adherence to directions, thoroughness, thoughtfulness, effort, accuracy, clarity, and logic.

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and will be used to augment the final grade up to 3%.

Attend a workshop or private tutoring session at the Writing Center (126 Clark Hall) and provide proof of attendance.

Class Policies

No cell phones in class: Turn them off and put them away. If you must use your phone during class, please step outside of the room to do it.

Plagiarized work and/or cheating on assessments will result in a 0 grade on the assignment, and the incident will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Late work will be marked down 10% one week after it is late. Assignments will be marked down 20% each week after the first week.

Make-ups for exams will generally not be possible unless extraordinary, documented circumstances exist.

Handle personal business before you begin an exam. A student who leaves the classroom *for any reason* during an exam will be presumed finished with the exam.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/"

FS 100W Forensic Science Writing Workshop Fall 2019 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change.

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines | Homework and Assignments |
|------|------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1/25 | | Review docs on Canvas |
| | | Types, | Start thinking about research topic |
| | | orensic | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 2 | 1/30 | Crime report types (face pages, continuation | |
| | 2/1 | pages, etc.), Note | |

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines | Homework and Assignments |
|------|--------------|---|--|
| 6 | 2/27 | Ethical issues: Certainty, uncertainty competency, bias, selective reporting, error objectivity vs. subjectivity | Read "Minimizing Contextual Bias in Forensic Casework" Quiz #2 |
| | 3/1 | Practical exercises | Finalize research topic and research question |
| 7 | 3/6 | Court players, processes, and terminology | Feder & Houck readings |
| | 3/8 | Types of witnesses, Federal Rules of Evidence | FRE 701-706 |
| 8 | 3/13 | Subpoenas, pre-trial and evidentiary meetings and hearings, preparing court exhibits | Feder & Houck readings Read "Defense Challenge to Fingerprints" |
| | 3/15 | Court room demeanor, credibility and competence, direct and cross examinations, do's and don't of testifying | Canvas: Locate videos of forensic science expert and crime scene testimony |
| 9 | 3/20 3/22 | Critique forensic testimony: overconfidence (Michael West) and uncertainty, misspeaking, weighting evidence, truthfulness and perjury | Feder & Houck readings Prepare defense questions |
| 10 | 3/27 | Spring Break – No Class | |
| | 3/29 | | |
| 11 | 4/1 | Mock court exercise: Student presentations | Feder & Houck readings |
| | 4/5 | Quiz #3 | |
| 12 | 4/10 | Role and purpose of research in forensic science, APA format | Read GWS Ch 2 & 3 |
| | 4/12 | Annotated bibliography Thesis statements | Read "Importance of Research Culture in FS" Locate and read articles on your research topic: Complete CRAAP sheets and annotated bibliography) |
| 13 | 4/17 | Thesis statement workshop | Refine thesis statement Complete first draft of lit review |
| | 4/19 | Writing a literature review Writing and introduction and conclusion | |