

San José State University
College of Social Sciences
Department of Justice Studies
JS185C Special Topics Film & Media
In Justice and the Law
Section 1 Spring 2023

Instructor:	Harold W. Peterson, JD
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Office Hours:	Thursdays/Thursdays 10:30 am to 11:45 am
Class Days/Time:	Thursdays 3:00 pm to 5:45 pm
Classroom:	MQH Room 520
JS Competency Area:	C: Critical Inquiries

Course Catalog Description

JS 185 - Special Topics in Law and Justice

(3 units)

Range of law and justice issues and topics may be addressed. Content varies by semester. Topics may include international law and globalization, the struggle for justice, human rights, law, inequality and injustice, and others. May be repeated for credit when content changes for a maximum of 9 units.

associated with such issues.

2. **Critical Analysis:** The course will provide an analytical review of the production and direction of specific films and their relationship to law and justice in the United States. The course will review specific films and dramatic literature regarding the struggle for justice, human rights, law, inequality injustice, and others. In addition, the analysis will include an in-depth look at the reasons and justifications for the creation of film and dramatic literature in justice and the law in the United States today

Classroom Protocol: This is a time to open your minds to new ideas, to explore new concepts, so please take advantage of this opportunity. Further, please be respectful of others and show them common courtesy. Students may enrich the learning process by discussion. Respect and professionalism are the guiding principles of this class. Tardiness will not be tolerated, if you are late, do not disturb class—wait until break to enter the classroom.

Electronic Devices: Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, PDA's or any other electronic device that "make noise". No text messaging in class, please turn off these devices, as they are disruptive. Students may take hand written notes during class; however, students may not use computer and/or other recording devices without instructor's permission.

Assignments and Grading Policy

SJSU Writing Center: The SJSU Writing Center located in Room 126 in Clark Hall offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, including one-on-one tutoring sessions and numerous writing workshops. All of the services are free for SJSU students. <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>

CASA Student Success Center:

		Film & Discussion <i>The Paper Chase</i> Introduction; Syllabus; Class Mechanics; The Nature of Justice and Law in film. (Art and the First Amendment)
		Film & Discussion <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> Film and the concept of Justice and the law
		Film & Discussion <i>Just Mercy</i> Film and Punishment.
		Film & Discussion <i>The Color Purple</i> Film and Culture
		Film & Discussion <i>Boys Don't Cry</i> Film and Crime Victims
		Film & Discussion <i>The Accused</i> Film and Prosecution
	Thursday 3/9	Film & Discussion <i>..And Justice for All</i> Film and the Defense Attorney Open: Take-home Midterm Examination
	Thursday 3/16	Film & Discussion <i>The Verdict</i> Film and Trial Due: Midterm Examination
		Film & Discussion <i>A Few Good Men</i> Film and Trial
	Thursday 3/30	Spring Recess No Class
	Thursday 4/6	Film & Discussion <i>Philadelphia</i> Film and Inequality Due: First Movie Review (To Kill a Mockingbird)
		Film & Discussion <i>Loving</i> Film and Inequality
		Film & Discussion <i>My Cousin Vinny</i> Film and Humor
		Film & Discussion <i>Black Klansman</i> Film and Humor
		Film & Discussion <i>On the Basis of Sex</i> Film and Gender
		Film & Discussion <i>Anatomy of a Murder</i>