

**College of Social Sciences/ Political Science
PADM 298, Sec. 01
Special Problems
Spring 2022**

Contact Information

Instructor:	Frances Edwards
Office Location:	Clark Hall 447
Telephone:	408-806-7937 (during office hours only)
Email:	Sjsupadm298@yahoo.com
Office Hours:	Monday and Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 pm
Class Days/Time:	Monday, 6:00 – 8:45 pm
Classroom:	Virtual via Zoom
Prerequisites:	PADM 210, 212, 213, 214 and 218; and instructor consent.

Required Readings

Research books

Student and instructor will select appropriate supportive materials based on the topic selected and the research method employed.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, nyle.monday@sjsu.edu

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9 (

SJSU Counseling Services

Segments of the Final Project:

1. Background/ Research Question. In the first paragraph you should state clearly the research question that the project will address. In the next pages you need to give whatever general information is required for your reader to fully understand the context of your research question. This may involve the basic facts of the situation, and the historical, cultural, social, and political context. This was part of your prospectus. However, in the final paper the information will be **stated in the past tense**, as the research will have been completed. The length of the background will depend on the topic.

2. Literature Review: The PADM 298 project should contain a comprehensive review of the relevant literature and published reports on the subject of your research question. The purpose of the review is to sharpen your thinking on your topic, and may point you in directions you had not previously considered. The literature review will vary in length. If, for example, you are analyzing a particular public policy question, your entire paper may consist of a review and analysis of public documents. For those engaging in survey research or organizational analysis, the literature review may be as short as six to ten pages.

The literature review covered in the prospectus will be the core of your paper's literature research. You may discover additional sources and so it should probably expand, but the bulk of your sources should already be in the prospectus.

5. Analysis and Conclusion: In this section you interpret your findings and make recommendations (when appropriate) and /or draw conclusions that are grounded in the Findings section. This section may range from 5 to 20 pages or more, depending on the topic.

The program does not have a fixed standard for length. Generally, successfully completed projects are between 40 and 60 pages in length. If you expect to write a longer paper, the acceptable length should be discussed with and approved by the adviser. Raw data may be presented as an appendix, and is not counted in the paper's page length.

6. Resources: This section is the complete list of every source that you cited in your paper. That means that it will be every source that you used to develop every element of your paper. Both paraphrases and direct quotes must be cited using the in-text citation format in APA style. Every in-text citation must have a complete citation in this section of the paper. ***Failure to cite all of your sources is plagiarism and will result in a grade of F for this course.***

Once the final draft is approved by the faculty adviser, students must submit a spiral bound copy to the program director for the department's permanent file. This has a clear plastic cover sheet, a hard plastic back and a spiral binding. It must also be submitted to the professor as a .pdf for the department's permanent electronic file. Both of these steps must be completed in order to have the Validation memo signed and submitted for your graduation. The hard copy must be delivered to the POLS office, 471 Clark Hall, whenever the POLS office is open. Call ahead to ensure that someone will be there if you plan to go in person– 408-924-5550. Hard copies may be delivered by mail or in person.

The grading rubric follows.

CRITERIA	Excellent	Good	Marginal	Unacceptable	Rating	Weight	Score
Outcome 1.							

TOTAL SCORE Assessment:										
Excellent	Good	Marginal	Unacceptable							
44	40	36	32							
As a supervisor, you would consider this work ready for public distribution without any modification.										
As a supervisor, you would consider this work essentially sound, but in need of some refinement before public distribution.										
As a supervisor, you would conclude that the work contained some worthwhile elements, but required major revisions before public distribution.										
The work needs to be entirely redone.										

1. Review all edits and correct errors

COURSE SCHEDULE

Class	Date	Activity
1	Jan 31	Class meeting: syllabus review, schedule review, form spring peer groups, professor appointments selected
2	Feb 7	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers
3	Feb 14	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers
4	Feb 21	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers
5	Feb 28	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers
6	Mar 7	Class meeting: discussion of research: roadblocks, problems, progress; BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS YOUR PROJECT.
7	Mar 14	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers
8	Mar 21	No Appointments ó ASPA; confer with peers
	Mar 28	NO SCHOOL ó SPRING BREAK
9	Apr 4	Individual appointments as scheduled, others confer with peers