

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS121 Media and Justice, Section 01, Spring 2019**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dina M. Kameda, M.S., M.A.
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM, or by appointment
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM
<b>Classroom:</b>	Sweeney Hall 312
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Upper division standing; JS 10, 12, 25 or FS 11 Pre/Co-requisite: Any 100W

**Course Format**

The mode of instruction for this course is in person with online supplements. Reliable access to a computer and the internet will be required. All written assignments will be submitted via Canvas, and must be in Microsoft Word (\*.doc or \*.docx). If you do not currently own Microsoft Word, the software (both PC and Mac) is available for free to students: <http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/microsoft-students/index.html>

**Canvas Course Page and e-mail**

Copies of course materials will be posted on Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking your e-mail and Canvas (multiple times per week is recommended) regarding announcements, reminders, and any additional course materials. The majority of course materials will be posted in Adobe PDF format; if you choose to download them, you will need Adobe Reader to view the documents. There is no cost to download Adobe Reader (<http://get.adobe.com/reader/otherversions/>). Some course materials may need to be accessed via the internet (i.e., web sites).

**Course Description**

This course is an interdisciplinary and comparative media examination of justice concepts and controversies, including forms of violence, human rights, undocumented persons, the state's role in promoting criminalization and social inequality, and the need for social justice and media reform. Students will engage in critical analysis of all different types of media: movies, documentaries, TV, TV news, social media, newspapers, op-ed pieces and commercials.

Note: A grade of "C" or better is required for Justice Studies majors.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. critically analyze how the media contributes to structural inequality by helping to create or maintain categories of social difference that impact people psychologically, physiologically, socially and culturally. This understanding will be accomplished with the reading materials assigned and with a review of the main points and key concepts through lectures and class discussions.
2. demonstrate an understanding about race theories and media studies methodology in relation to justice issues. Race theories will be assigned at the beginning of the course and media studies is used as a methodology for the topics covered in this course.
3. Challenge assumptions on the nature of social inequality and stratification particularly in regard to media stereotypes and social phobias toward people who are marginalized and disenfranchised by society. This will be accomplished with critical class participation and in-class writing assignments.
4. collaborate with other students through class discussion, fishbowls, peer conversations, small group and large group discussions. This will be accomplished through class participation exercises.
5. read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Required Textbook

Robinson, M. B. (2018). *Media coverage of crime and criminal justice*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, LLC. (ISBN: 9781531006013)

### Library Liaison

[Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu](mailto:Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu)

(408) 808-2118

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

### Out-of-Class Written Assignments

General formatting requirements for written assignments include a cover page, page numbering, 1” margins, strict double-spacing, and Times New Roman 12pt. font. All assignments must be written in formal English, with college-level writing mechanics, and APA-style formatting, inclusive of in-text citations and references. Out-of-class written assignments must be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Students are 100% responsible for uploading the correct file when submitting an assignment. Failure to upload the correct file will result in a zero for the assignment.**

### Quizzes on Canvas [Participation]

Students should complete the readings prior to the date by which they appear on the syllabus. Quizzes will be completed online via Canvas, and will be available for specific windows of time. Once a student begins a quiz, a limited amount of time will be given to complete it. Timely completion of quizzes will count towards course participation. See the course agenda for more information. [CLO 1-3]

### Exams

Students will be required to complete (2) take-home, essay-format exams covering assigned course readings. [CLO 1-3 and 5]

## Group Presentations

Students will work in small groups on media presentations focused on showcasing how the media influences the perception of crime, the criminal justice system, and social issues. Microsoft Power Points will be required for the presentations which will be approximately 15 minutes in length. Each group member will be required to discuss part of the presentation. [CLO 1 - 5]

## Media Analysis Paper: Final Project

Students will be required to write a media analysis paper as their final project for the course. The paper is designed to explore and analyze the influences and impact of various media sources on crime, the criminal justice system, and social issues. The purpose of the paper is not just to specifically test knowledge, but to also force critical thinking. This paper should be no more than 2,000 words (not including the cover page or references). A handout detailing the expectations, content, formatting, and submission requirements will be provided in a timely manner. [CLO 1-3 and 5]

Students are prohibited from writing on a topic that has been used for a previous course, or currently being used for another course. Any attempt to violate this requirement will result in an automatic “F” for the paper, which ultimately will result in failing the course. Such an attempt would constitute a violation of the Academic Integrity policy.

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 practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

## Grading Information

Written assignments will primarily be graded on content; however, poor writing mechanics and APA formatting will result in a moderate point deduction. Assistance with APA can be found at:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> In order to demonstrate comprehension of the course material, one must be able to write in a clear and effective manner. Always carefully proofread your assignments before submitting them. Late submissions will not be accepted unless a valid, documented, and verifiable reason is provided.

## Department of Justice Studies Course Grade Determination

Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade
98.0 to 100	A plus	80.0 to 82.99	B minus	63 to 67.99	D
93.0 to 97.99	A	78 to 79.99	C plus	00.0 to 62.99	F
90.0 to 92.99	A minus	73.0 to 77.99	C		
88.0 to 89.99	B plus	70 .0 to 72.99	C minus		
83 to 87.99	B	68.00 to 69.99	D plus		

Assignment/Exam	Exam/Due Date	Weight
Participation		10%
Quizzes on Canvas	See schedule	15%
Exam 1	March 7 <sup>th</sup>	20%
Exam 2	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	20%
Group Presentations	See schedule	15%
Media Analysis Paper: Final Project	May 20 <sup>th</sup>	20%

## Classroom Protocol

1. Students are expected to: attend all class meetings, arrive on time, stay for the duration of the class period, complete all readings and assignments in accordance with the dates on the course schedule.
2. Students are responsible for all missed notes, materials and announcements due to absence. You are encouraged to exchange contact information with someone in class just in case.
3. As neither a laptop nor tablet is required in class, use of them is strictly limited to note taking or accommodation purposes. Students caught using such items for other non-class purposes may be prohibited from bringing them back to class, and will likely be dismissed from class for the day. At the instructor's discretion, students may be dismissed from class for cell phone use of any kind during class time, unless expressly permitted by the instructor.

## E-mail Policy

Feel free to e-mail the instructor at any time (I check several times per day); however, please adhere to the e-mail guidelines below:

1. Please include in the “subject line” the course number, your name, and a specific description of your inquiry or comment (e.g., JS121, Your Name, subject). The instructor **will not** respond to “**no subject**” e-mails, or any e-mail where the student is not identified in either the subject line or body of the e-mail.
2. E-mailed inquiries should be relatively short in nature. Students should request a time to chat (via Canvas) with me to discuss more extensive inquiries. Students will be referred to the course syllabus with respect to questions that are addressed by simply reading the syllabus.

## 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>”

## Department 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 to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

## JS121 Media and Justice, Section 01, Spring 2019

The following course schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be provided via an announcement on Canvas as early as possible.

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/24/19	Course introduction and overview Assignments and expectations <b>Reading for today:</b> Syllabus; Academic Integrity and Student Conduct policies
2	01/29/19	Impressions of the media discussion
2	01/31/19	<i>Introduction to the Media</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 1
3	02/05/19	<i>Introduction to the Media, Part II</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 2
3	02/07/19	<i>Introduction to the Media, Part II</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 2 <b>Canvas Quiz #1 (Ch. 1 and 2):</b> Open from <b>02/07/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>02/08/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
4	02/12/19	<i>Media Coverage of Lawmaking and Crime</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 3
4	02/14/19	<i>Media Coverage of Lawmaking and Crime</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 3
5	02/19/19	Ch. 3 Media Day <b>Canvas Quiz #2 (Ch. 3):</b> Open from <b>02/19/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>02/20/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
5	02/21/19	<i>Media Coverage of Lawmaking and Crime, Part II</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 4
6	02/26/19	<i>Media Coverage of Lawmaking and Crime, Part II</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 4
6	02/28/19	Ch. 4 Media Day <b>Canvas Quiz #3 (Ch. 4):</b> Open from <b>02/28/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>03/01/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
7	03/05/19	<i>Media Coverage of Policing</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 5 <b>Exam 1 distributed:</b> Take-home (Ch. 1-4)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
7	03/07/19	<i>Media Coverage of Policing</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 5 <b>Exam 1 due by 11:59 PM, upload to Canvas</b>
8	03/12/19	Ch. 5 Media Day <b>Canvas Quiz #4 (Ch. 5):</b> Open from <b>03/12/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>03/13/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
8	03/14/19	<i>Media Coverage of Courts and Judicial Processes</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 6
9	03/19/19	<i>Media Coverage of Courts and Judicial Processes</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 6
9	03/21/19	Ch. 6 Media Day <b>Canvas Quiz #5 (Ch. 6):</b> Open from <b>03/21/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>03/22/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
10	03/26/19	<b>Instructor Away at APS National Conference – No Class</b>
10	03/28/19	
11	04/02/19	<b>Spring Break - No Class</b>
11	04/04/19	<b>Spring Break - No Class</b>
12	04/09/19	<i>Media Coverage of Corrections</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 7
12	04/11/19	<i>Media Coverage of Corrections</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 7
13	04/16/19	Ch. 7 Media Day <b>Canvas Quiz #6 (Ch. 7):</b> Open from <b>04/16/19 (12:00 AM)</b> through <b>04/17/19 (11:59 PM)</b>
13	04/18/19	<i>Summary, Conclusions, and Reform</i> <b>Reading for today:</b> Ch. 8
14	04/23/19	Group Presentation In-class Preparation <b>Exam 2 distributed:</b> Take-home (Ch. 5-8)
14	04/25/19	Group Presentation In-class Preparation <b>Exam 2 due by 11:59 PM, upload to Canvas</b>
15	04/30/19	<i>Group Presentations</i>
15	05/02/19	<i>Group Presentations</i>
16	05/07/19	<i>Group Presentations</i>
16	05/09/19	<i>Group Presentations</i>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
<b>Final</b>	<b>05/20/19</b>	<b>Media Analysis Paper: Final Project Due</b>