

**San José State University**  
**CASA/Justice Studies**  
**JS132 Race, Gender, Inequality and the Law,**  
**Spring 2020**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Joseph S. Di Salvo
<b>Office Location:</b>	Health 125
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 506-0744
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays or Thursdays before/after class or by appointment (See instructor's note)
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30-2:45
<b>Classroom:</b>	Boccardo Business 225
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Completion of, or co-requisite of 100W

**Course Description**

History of legal issues and individual and institutional discrimination of women, ethnic/cultural and religious minorities, gays, lesbians, transgender and the disabled in education, employment, criminal justice and the family. Solutions sets for structured inequality in the U.S. will be presented and discussed.

Class, Race, Gender and Crime in the U.S. will be the focus of class presentations, discussions, video montages and EXPERT presenters. American inequality significantly affects the quality of life for most of us. *This instructor's passion during his career has been the quality of public education from birth to college/career. Due to his credentials and the public office he holds as a Trustee of the Santa Clara County Board of Education, education's role as the "great equalizer" will be an integrated focus of this semester class.* In addition, race, class and gender in the criminal justice system will be analyzed from a variety of perspectives.

GE Area: S Prerequisites: Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended.

## 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 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.

### Instructor's Note for JS 132

A university degree is a significant accomplishment and requires a high level of commitment, time management, organization, and initiative. It is in your best interest to attend this class regularly and on-time. Attendance and class participation will make up an important portion of your grade due to required papers, Canvas responses, presentations, and exams. Your regular attendance will be transparent in your answers, arguments, and personal reflections. **This instructor will make himself available to answer any questions, concerns or obstacles to your success in this class at anytime. Do not hesitate to contact him and schedule time for an appointment, if the need arises.**

**This course will be using the +/- system on final grades based on the following percentages:**

A 94-100 A- 90-93 B+ 87-89 B 84-86 B- 80-83 C+ 77-79 **C- 70-73 D+ 67-69 D 64-66 D- 60-63 F 0-59**

### 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/>”

### Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability (e.g. additional time on the quizzes), please contact me as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the SJSU Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability. You will need to email me a copy of your AEC form so that I can provide you with the appropriate accommodations.

### Academic Integrity

Students should know that the University's Code of Student Conduct which can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/Student%20Conduct%20Code%202013.pdf>. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

- **PLEASE NOTE:** Justice Studies Students have only two opportunities to pass JS 132 with a C or better. Any student with a final grade that is C- or lower on the first attempt will be placed on administrative probation with a registration hold. Any repeating student with a final grade that is C- or lower will be disqualified from the Justice Studies degree program.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

### **Peer Connections**

The Peer Connections is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center and Clark Hall, first floor, Academic Success 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. Website: <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/>

### **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. Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>

### **CASA Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA) provides advising for undergraduate students majoring or wanting to major in programs offered in CASA Departments and Schools. All CASA students and students who would like to be in CASA 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. Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact information: 408.924.2910. Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>.

### **Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

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

GELO1: To describe how identities (i.e. gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, and/or age) are shaped by cultural and societal influences in contexts of equality and inequality.

GELO2: To describe historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U.S.

GELO3: To provide an overview of race, gender, and class issues in the criminal justice system.

GELO4: To describe social actions which have led to greater equality and social justice in the U.S. (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age).

GELO5: Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

GELO6: Students will recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups within the U.S.

### **Class Protocol and Agenda For Each Session**

1. Class orientation and agenda- Professor Di Salvo

2. Random selection of two students per class beginning (FIRST HALF OF SEMESTER). Could be augmented by expert speaker and other timing. Topics include Class, Race, Gender, Intersectionality, Crime, Legal issues contained within the topic- Each randomly selected student must come prepared to share something from a personal current experience since last class (becoming observers and social scientists), social media, print media, broadcast media (radio or TV), Internet etc.

Student presenters will be selected at random. Beginning of class current issues in race, class, gender, crime, policing (good or not) will become 25 points toward class participation grade.

3. Class Topic- Political backdrop of topic- 360-degree perspective- More

4. Discussion of Readings and expert speakers- From texts, assigned essays etc.

5. Group Assignments- 2-3 to group assignment (presenting alone on a topic is discouraged, however can work with special permission)- Assignment protocol 25% (250 points) of grade will be discussed in February 2020.

6. Report Out- From group discussions

7. Expert Speakers and Reflections- Canvas response summary and personal reflections due 72 hours OR SUNDAY after speaker presents. Guests will include local political and community leaders, City and County leaders, law enforcement professionals, educators etc.

8. Over the last four years of my work in teaching JS 132 Roundtable discussions have become a critical part of our learning together about the sensitive issues we must address as global citizens of this world. The syllabus will list days of our class roundtables. Personal reflections on each roundtable will be required of each student.

### ***Class Grading***

**Group Presentation- 25% (250 points)- Grade- Self-Assessment Rubric Discussed on February 2018.**

**Class Participation- 35% (350 points) of Grade- Showing up and participating in discussions are a critical ingredient to your success in this class. The speakers and information will be rich and provocative to further your understanding of justice in our 21<sup>st</sup> century global environment. Reflections will track your participation throughout the semester. Random student selection and Class Current Issue in Justice.**

**Midterm- (minimum of 1500 words) Questions will be open notes and book. Readings, Speakers, Class discussions, Group Presentations- 75 minutes in class to Canvas. Choice of questions will provided. 20%**

**Final Exam- Summary of semester experiences- (1500 word exam requirement.) Study questions will be determined by week before semester's end. 20%**

**Personal Evaluations, Class critique and Self-assessment- 1 paragraph on why you deserve the grade you list and how you would improve the class experience.**

Summary of Grading for JS 132- Di Salvo
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25% 250 points-Group Presentation

35% 350 points-Class Active Participation (Speaker Reflections, Random Assignment at beginning of class, Roundtable Reflections, Interaction with speakers and student presentations. All submissions on Canvas.

20% 200 pts-Midterm- In Class- Submit on Canvas

20% 200 pts- Final Exam- In Class-Submit on Canvas

**Required Readings. The following four books are required reading:**

Michelle Obama. *Becoming*. New York. Crown, 2018

Brian Stevenson. *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. New York. Spiegel & Grau, 2014 Bryan Stevenson's amazing work has just been released as a first run movie 2020.

Adichie, Chamamanda Ngozi. *We Should All Be Feminists or see YouTube (Kindle Edition) 2014*

Ta-Nehisi Coates. *Between The World And Me*. New York. Spiegel & Grau, 2015

**Recommended Readings:**

Tom Gjelten. *A Nation of Nations: A Great American Immigration Story*. New York. Simon & Schuster

Irin Carmon & Shana Knizhnik. *Notorious RBG- The Life And Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*. DEY ST. 2015

Kamala Harris. *The Truths We Hold: An American Journey*. New York. Penguin Press. 2019

# JS132, Race, Gender, Inequality & the Law

Spring 2020

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	January 23	Introduction- Course Outline, Review of Syllabus, Course Requirements, & Grading First Group- Ice Breaker Question- Report Out Video on SJSU Commencement Speech by Dr. Harry Edwards  Reflection due on SJSU History of Race and Speed City
		<b>Homework-</b> Submit to Canvas your response to the Dr. Harry Edwards, May 28, 2016 SJSU Commencement speech. See specific assignment on Canvas. Read pages 1-71 <i>Between the World and Me</i>
2	January 28 & 30	NY Times Video Observations from Conversation on Race- Random responses (equity)-  <b>Group Work- Presentations Explained. Topics presented. Choices made. Rubric discussed.</b>  <b>Between The World And Me</b> Pgs 1-71
		Homework-Death Penalty and Wrongful Convictions Begin to Read <i>Just Mercy</i> (now a movie) by Bryan Stevenson-  <a href="http://www.innocenceproject.org">www.innocenceproject.org</a> - review website
3	February 4 & 6	Current Issues (3)- Cite Source- Class, Race, Gender, Education, Crime 2/4 <b>First Expert Speaker- The Amazing Frances Teso Life's Story</b> <b>As a local Latina she is making enormous change for equity and justice. Her life story is gripping and exciting to hear.</b> Read- <i>Just Mercy</i> pgs. 3-91 Innocence Project <b>2/6- Presiding Judge Kathryn Lucero's Justice Involved Students in SCC</b> Presentation to County Board of Education- 2019
4	February 11 & 13	Current Issues 2/11- <b>Expert Speaker Aaron Aquas-Rao- Intake Attorney with NCIP</b>  Watch: <i>The Mask You Live In</i> -Part 1 <b>Roundtable DISCUSSION #1</b>
		<b>Homework- Research the term Hypermasculinity from a 360-degree perspective.</b> <b>Begin to formulate your own beliefs around term and movement.</b>  Gender

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	February 18 & 20	Current Issues The Mask You Live In- Part 2 Group # 1- Presents
		Continue to Read: Between The World and Me
6	February 25 & 27	Current Issues Expert Speaker- Darryl Cortez- Shop With A Cop Foundation- Graduate of SJSU Administration of Justice  Class and Economic Privilege in America/ Documentary: "Poor Kids" Poor Kids   FRONTLINE   PBS <a href="http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/poor-kids">www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/poor-kids</a>  Group #2 Presents
		<i>Read Between The World And Me pgs. 72-152</i> <i>Read We Should All Be Feminists</i> <i>Read Just Mercy- Chapters 1-5</i>
7	March 3 & 5	Current Issues Group #3 Presents Roundtable DISCUSSION #2  March 5- Expert Speaker- Leon Beauchman- AT&T, MFCC, Black Educators Association, Former Scholar Athlete in Basketball in 1969 at SJSU
		<i>Read Between the World and Me and We Should All Be Feminists</i>
8	March 10 & 12	Current Issues Group #4 Presents  Ex Midterm Exam Discussed- 200 Points- Open Book- submitted to Canvas at end of class
		Homework- Make a list in a reflective paper on what issues about race, class, gender, education, equality etc. that you have come to understand with more clarity or less clarity. Have a 30-minute conversation this week with one relative, friend, or colleague about what you have come to learn in JS 132 at the halfway point in the course. Write a 350-500 work essay on the experience and submit to Canvas. Counts for Class Participation
9	March 17 & 19	Current Issues- March 17 Midterm Exam March 19- Expert Speaker- Darcie Green Latinas Contra Cancer- Race and Health
		Read: Bryan Stevenson's Just Mercy 92-226
10	March 24 & 26	Group 5 Presents Expert Speaker- Robert Aviles- Sheriff Deputy on Loan to US Homeland Security San Francisco- Why law enforcement? It is all about relationships-

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines			
		<b>Roundtable DISCUSSION #3</b> Current Issues <b>Group # 6 Presents</b>			
	Spring Break March 30- April 3	Read: Becoming by Michelle Obama March 31- Cesar Chavez Day- San Jose's Connections Enjoy your spring break!			
11	April 7 & 9	Current Issues Homelessness Race, Gender and Inequality- Professor Di Salvo etc. Work at SJSU <b>Group # 7 Presents</b>			
		"Rethinking United States Immigration Policy, Diversity, and the Politics of Exclusion" (pp. 253-277) Notes from a Nation of Nations by Di Salvo Read: Just Mercy pgs. 227-310 <b>Roundtable CIRCLE DISCUSSION #4</b>			
12	April 14 & 16	Current Issues <b>Group # 8 Presents</b>			
		Read: Becoming			
13	April 21 & 23	Current Issues <b>Group # 9 Presents</b> <b>Group #10 Presents</b>			
	April 28 & April 30	Current Issues Complete all required book readings for Final Roundtable <b>Final Discussed</b> <b>Summative Roundtable Discussion # 5</b>			
15	May 5 & 7 <b>Last Class</b>	Current Issues <b>Group # 11 &amp; 12 Presents</b> Review for Final 200 Points			
16	May 11 <i>Last Class Session</i>	<b>Group #13 and Group #14</b>			
Final Exam	May 19	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1330 or 1400</td> <td>Tuesday, May 19</td> <td>1215-1430</td> </tr> </table>	1330 or 1400	Tuesday, May 19	1215-1430
1330 or 1400	Tuesday, May 19	1215-1430			