

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS101 Critical Issues and Ideas in Justice, Section 01, Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dina M. Kameda, M.S., M.A.
Office Location:	MacQuarrie Hall 508
Telephone:	(408) 832-9939 (cell phone - emergency only)
Email:	dina.kameda@sjsu.edu (best method of contact)
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (in-person) and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM via Zoom (see Canvas course page) (Zoom appointments are available by request if students cannot attend regularly scheduled office hours)
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:30 AM - 8:45 AM
Classroom:	MacQuarrie Hall 523
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing; JS 10, 12, 25 or FS 11; Co-requisite: JS 100W

Course Format

The mode of instruction for this course is in-person lecture. 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://www.sjsu.edu/it/services/collaboration/software/instructions.php>

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 will cover an interdisciplinary, historical and comparative examination of justice concepts and controversies, including the state's role in promoting justice and perpetuating injustice; legitimate versus illegitimate violence; human rights, stateless persons, and the international community; the relationship between social justice and criminal justice.

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

Required Texts/Readings

All readings will be posted on Canvas as PDFs, or will be available via the internet.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Critically examine social justice issues and develop a broader understanding of social justice and the relationship between social justice and social policy.
2. Reflect upon the relationship between race, class, gender, nationality and social justice.
3. Write reports, assignments, and papers with professional and academic aptitude demonstrating a familiarity of class materials.
4. Read academic materials with proficiency.
5. Contribute to class discussion in thoughtful, critical, and collaborative ways.
6. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

Library Liaison

Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu

<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.

Topic Reflections

Throughout the semester, you will be required to submit Topic Reflection assignments based on the topics covered in class. For each Topic Reflection, you will write about substantive ways the topic relates to dehumanization. The assignments will be submitted online via Canvas, and will be available for specific windows of time. Timely completion of the Topic Reflections will count towards course participation. See the course agenda for dates. [CLO 1-4 and 6]

Small Group Discussions

Throughout the semester, you will be required participate in small group discussions which will count towards class participation, based on the questions posed by the instructor. For each group discussion, groups will collaborate on a written response to an instructor provided prompt. The assignments will be submitted online via Canvas by one group member, and will be available for specific windows of time. [CLO 1-3, 5, and 6]

Final Project: Policy Paper

You will write a policy paper as a final project for the course, examining a specific topic area relevant to the course. You will be allowed to choose from a predetermined list of acceptable general topics, and will then choose a more specific aspect of the general topic upon which to focus. You may also propose a topic, but it must be cleared by the instructor. The purpose of the paper is not just to specifically test knowledge, but to also force critical thinking about an aspect of a chosen topic. 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 1-4 and 6]

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.

This paper will include of a review of scholarly literature on an approved topic. Students will be required to not only analyze and critique existing policies, but propose new or amended policies. The research reviewed must come from high quality justice-related journals, which establish and examine relationships between and among variables, concepts, theories, and policies. Based on the evidence reviewed, policy implications will be drawn. Timely completion of the Policy Paper and participation in paper check-in discussions will count towards course participation.

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

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>98 to 100</i>	<i>98 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>93 to 97.99</i>	<i>93 to 97.99%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92.9</i>	<i>90 to 92.9%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>88 to 89.9</i>	<i>88 to 89.9 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>83 to 87.99</i>	<i>83 to 87.99%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82.9</i>	<i>80 to 82.9%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>78 to 79.9</i>	<i>78 to 79.9%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 77.9</i>	<i>73 to 77.9%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72.9</i>	<i>70 to 72.9%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>68 to 69.9</i>	<i>68 to 69.9%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 67.9</i>	<i>63 to 67.9%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62.9</i>	<i>60 to 62.9%</i>

Assignment/Exam	Exam/Due Date	Weight
Participation (see course schedule)		15%
Topic Reflections	See schedule	25%
Small Group Discussions	See schedule	25%
Policy Paper: Final Project	May 22 nd	35%
		100%

Course Success

In order to succeed in this course, one must: (1) regularly access the Canvas page for the course; (2) be very mindful of due dates and times for all time-restricted components of the course; (3) carefully read the syllabus; (4) fully read all announcements made by the instructor via Canvas; and (5) read all directions for course components. Beyond the completion of assigned readings, sufficient time must be spent contemplating the material for the purpose of being prepared to participate in class discussions and complete other assignments.

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., JS101, 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.

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

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/26/23	Course introduction and overview Assignments and expectations
2	01/31/23	Policy analysis discussion (Part 1)
2	02/02/23	Policy analysis discussion (Part 2)
3	02/07/23	Policy Paper discussion (Part 1)
3	02/09/23	Policy Paper discussion (Part 2)
4	02/14/23	Module 1 Topic Discussion: Incarceration (Part 1)
4	02/16/23	Module 1 Topic Discussion: Incarceration (Part 2)
5	02/21/23	Module 1 Topic Discussion: Incarceration (Part 3)
5	02/23/23	Module 1 Topic Discussion: Incarceration (Part 4)
6	02/28/23	Group Discussion #1: Response statement due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
6	03/02/23	Module 2 Topic Discussion: Incels (Part 1) Topic Reflection #1 (Incarceration): Due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
7	03/07/23	Module 2 Topic Discussion: Incels (Part 2)
7	03/09/23	Module 2 Topic Discussion: Incels (Part 3)
8	03/14/23	Module 2 Topic Discussion: Incels (Part 4)
8	03/16/23	Group Discussion #2: Response statement due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
9	03/21/23	Policy Paper Topic Check-in Class Discussion (Participation) Topic Reflection #2 (Incels): Due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
9	03/23/23	Policy Paper Topic Check-in Class Discussion (Participation)
10	03/28/23	SPRING BREAK
10	03/30/23	
11	04/04/23	Module 3 Topic Discussion: Racism (Part 1)
11	04/06/23	Module 3 Topic Discussion: Racism (Part 2)
12	04/11/23	Module 3 Topic Discussion: Racism (Part 3)
12	04/13/23	Module 3 Topic Discussion: Racism (Part 4)
13	04/18/23	Group Discussion #3: Response statement due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
13	04/20/23	Module 4 Topic: Voting Rights and Democracy (Part 1) Topic Reflection #3 (Racism): Due by 11:59 PM (Participation)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	04/25/23	Module 4 Topic: Voting Rights and Democracy (Part 2)
14	04/27/23	Module 4 Topic: Voting Rights and Democracy (Part 3)
15	05/02/23	Group Discussion #4: Response statement due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
15	05/04/23	Policy Paper Check-in Class Discussion (Participation) Topic Reflection #4 (Voting Rights and Democracy): Due by 11:59 PM (Participation)
16	05/09/23	Policy Paper Check-in Class Discussion (Participation)
16	05/11/23	Final Project Work Day
Final	05/22/23	Final Project: Policy Paper Due (Upload to Canvas) (Participation)