

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS101 Critical Issues and Ideas in Justice, Section 01, Fall 2020**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dina M. Kameda, M.S., M.A.
<b>Office Location:</b>	MacQuarrie Hall 508
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 832-9939 (cell phone - emergency only)
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:dina.kameda@sjsu.edu">dina.kameda@sjsu.edu</a> (preferred and best method of contact)
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:15 AM – 10:00 AM; Wednesdays 11:30 AM -12:15 PM or by appointment via Zoom
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM
<b>Classroom:</b>	Online via Zoom
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Upper division standing; JS 10, 12, 25 or FS 11; Co-requisite: JS 100W

**Course Format**

The mode of instruction for this course is completely online. 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](mailto: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 one substantive way 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]

### Breakout Room Discussions on Zoom

Throughout the semester, you will be required to participate in group discussions via breakout rooms on Zoom 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. 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.

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		15%
Topic Reflections	See schedule	25%
Breakout Room Discussions	See schedule	25%
Policy Paper: Final Project	December 15 <sup>th</sup>	35%
		100%

### Overview of Participation – What constitutes participation for an online course?

In order to participate in an online course, one must: (1) regularly access the Canvas page for the course; (2) pay close attention to the module prerequisites (i.e., what must be accomplished before accessing the next module) and module completion requirements; (3) be very mindful of due dates and times for all time-restricted components of the course; and (4) carefully read the syllabus, fully read all announcements made by the instructor via Canvas, 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	08/20/20	Course introduction and overview Assignments and expectations <b>Reading for today: Syllabus</b>
2	08/25/20	Policy discussion
2	08/27/20	Policy discussion
3	09/01/20	Topic: Systemic Racism and the Fight for Racial Equality (Part 1)
3	09/03/20	Topic: Systemic Racism and the Fight for Racial Equality (Part 2)
4	09/08/20	Topic: Systemic Racism and the Fight for Racial Equality (Part 3)
4	09/10/20	<b>Breakout Room Discussion #1: Response statement due by 11:59 PM</b>
5	09/15/20	Policy Paper discussion <b>Topic Reflection #1 (Systemic Racism and the Fight for Racial Equality): Due by 11:59 PM</b>
5	09/17/20	Policy Paper discussion and Topic Check-in
6	09/22/20	Topic: Healthcare and the Pandemic (Part 1)
6	09/24/20	Topic: Healthcare and the Pandemic (Part 2)
7	09/29/20	Topic: Healthcare and the Pandemic (Part 3)
7	10/01/20	<b>Breakout Room Discussion #2: Response statement due by 11:59 PM</b>
8	10/06/20	Topic: Education and the Economy (Part 1)
8	10/08/20	Topic: Education and the Economy (Part 2)
9	10/13/20	Topic: Education and the Economy (Part 3)
9	10/15/20	<b>Breakout Room Discussion #3: Response statement due by 11:59 PM</b>
10	10/20/20	Topic: Voting Rights and Access (Part 1) <b>Topic Reflection #2 (Healthcare and the Pandemic/Education and the Economy): Due by 11:59 PM</b>
10	10/22/20	Topic: Voting Rights and Access (Part 2)
11	10/27/20	Topic: Voting Rights and Access (Part 3)
11	10/29/20	<b>Breakout Room Discussion #4: Response statement due by 11:59 PM</b>
12	11/03/20	Representative John Lewis Reflection
12	11/05/20	Topic: "Alt Right" (Part 1)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
13	11/10/20	Topic: "Alt Right" (Part 2)
13	11/12/20	Topic: "Alt Right" (Part 3)
14	11/17/20	<b>Breakout Room Discussion #5: Response statement due by 11:59 PM</b>
14	11/19/20	<b>Topic Reflection #3 (Healthcare and the Pandemic/Education and the Economy): Due by 11:59 PM</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>11/24/20</b>	<i>Instructor Personal Holiday</i>
<b>15</b>	<b>11/26/20</b>	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
16	12/01/20	Policy Paper Check-in Discussion
16	12/03/20	Policy Paper Check-in Discussion
<b>Final</b>	<b>12/15/20</b>	<b>Final Project: Policy Paper Due (Upload to Canvas)</b>