

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS12-05, Introduction to Legal Studies, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Greg Woods, J.D.
Office Location:	MacQuarrie Hall 508
Telephone:	(408) 924-1840
Email:	greg.woods@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM, and by email appointment; Invitations/Zoom links through Canvas under Announcements.
Class Days/Time:	Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM live streamed Zoom lectures; Recordings of all class sessions are on Canvas under Files.
Classroom:	On Line; Invitations/Zoom links to live lectures through Canvas under Announcements.

Justice Studies Department 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.

Course Description

The course presents historical and modern perspectives of the theories and structures of law, and provides an overview of the economic and sociological challenges to law making. This course also examines the nexus between law, social change, and dispute resolution. 3 Units.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

- 1. Demonstrate a general understanding of the fundamental influences society has on the law.*
- 2. Demonstrate knowledge of legislative, administrative and judicial law making, as well as a general understanding of the law making processes.*
- 3. Develop an understanding of methods for analyzing the legal and social controls and dispute resolution.*
- 4. Understand the various aspects of the legal profession and methods for legal research.*
- 5. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.*

Required Textbook

M. Lippman (2018). *Law and Society* (2nd edition). Sage Publications. ISBN-13: 978-1-5063-6227-4

Recommended

Jordan, Terry (2010). *The U.S. Constitution And Fascinating Facts About It* (7th edition). Oak Hill Publishing ISBN 978-1-891743-00-9

Students may purchase texts in the bookstore and online.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2041

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

Course Requirements and Assignments

Our class is offered completely online with no designated day/time meeting pattern. However, students are provided the opportunity to be virtually present and interact during regularly scheduled live streamed Zoom lectures and review questions and subject matter during regularly scheduled Office Hours on Zoom and via email. 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 three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Weekly Assignments

Students will be assigned **eight (8)** weekly reading and writing assignments in class and as reflected below. Weekly Assignments are due during every other **Wednesday** class session, or as instructed, and will consist of a one-to-two paged double spaced typed analysis in 12-point font. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Quizzes

Students will complete a total of **seven (7)** quizzes throughout the semester to be submitted every other **Wednesday** class session with Weekly Assignments, or as instructed, in response to subject matter from readings and class lecture. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Final Examination

Students will complete a cumulative final examination using key terms and concepts from readings and class discussion consisting of short and essay based questions. (CLO 1, 2 & 3)

Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.

Participation

Students are invited to participate on Zoom during live lectures in an informed, professional and respectful manner, check in during virtual office hours at least once during our semester, and consistently submit quality work in a timely manner. Participation credit will also be rewarded in response to student preparedness and politeness during online class sessions. (CLO 2 & 3)

Grading Policy

Final grades will be evaluated as follows:

Weekly Assignments (8)	30%
Quizzes (7)	30%
Final Examination	30%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100

B = 80 to 89

C = 70 to 79

D = 60 to 69

F = 59 and below.

Please Note: Extra credit will not be awarded, late assignments and quizzes will not be accepted for credit.

Students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades. **Students are encouraged to review their progress in person no later than Week Eight (Wednesday, October 7th) and periodically throughout the semester** during office hours, and by appointment.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance/Punctuality

Our class is offered completely online live-streamed. Students are provided the opportunity to be virtually present and interact during regularly scheduled live streamed Zoom lectures, every Monday and Wednesday from 9-10:15 AM, and review questions and subject matter during regularly scheduled office hours on Zoom and via email. Regular attendance and punctuality are encouraged.

Late Assignments/Missed Quizzes

Late assignments will not be accepted and missed quizzes cannot be retaken for credit without prior agreement.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

JS12-05 / Introduction to Legal Studies, Fall 2020

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	August 19	Introductions/Course overview; Syllabus, Class, Assignment, Quiz & Final Examination formats; Historical Foundations of Justice; Legal, Criminal & Social Justice; State & Federal Constitutions; Structure & Sources of Authority of the Legal System in the United States; Assign Weekly Assignment #1 (DUE 8/26).
2	August 24 & 26	Dark Figure of Crime; Relationships between Law Enforcement, Courts & Correctional Systems; Distinguishing Crimes & Torts; The Study of Criminology, & Criminal Justice; Reporting & Measuring Criminal Behavior; Uniform Crime Report, National Crime Victim Survey & Law Enforcement Education Program; Read Chapter 1: An Introduction To Law and Society (pgs 1-42); Review Terminology (p 42); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #1; Assign Quiz #1 (Due 9/9 with Weekly Assignment #2).
3	August 31 & September 2	Review Assignment #1; Natural Law; Legislative Solutions to Society's Problems; Constitutional Fidelity & Access to Justice; Judicial Review; Redressing Grievances & Burdens of Proof; Grand & Trial Juries; Bifurcated Trials; Duties of Prosecution, Defense & Judiciary; Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility; The Golden Rule & Doing the Right Thing; Hobbs, Locke & Social Contract Theory; Read Chapter 2: Theories of Law and Justice (pgs 43-67); Review Terminology (p 66).
4	September 9 (No Class Monday the 7th, Happy Labor Day!)	Socialization, Subcultures & Stratification; Insanity, Obscenity, Prurient Behavior, Drugs & Evolving Community Standards; Sobriety Checkpoints & Gun Control; Read Chapter 3: The Structure and Function of Courts, Legislatures, and Administrative Agencies (pgs 69-131); Review Terminology (p 132); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #2: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-6 (p 42), 1-11 (p 67), 1-11 (p 132) and Quiz #1.
5	September 14 & 16	Review Quiz #1; Conflict, Consensus & Labeling; Rational Choice, Routine Activity & Differential Association; Penal Codes & Proportionate Criminal Liability; Read Chapter 4: The Legal Profession (pgs 133-176); Review Terminology (p 177); Assign Quiz #2 (Due 9/23 with Weekly Assignment #3).

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
6	September 21 & 23	Retributive & Restorative Models of Justice; Balancing Individual & Community Demands; Expectations of Equal Protection, Procedural & Substantive Due Process; Black Lives Matter & Officer Involved Shootings; Read Chapter 5: Access to Justice and Legal Ethics (pgs 178-208); Review Terminology (p 208); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #3: Chapter Review Questions: 1-8 (pgs 176-177), 1-7 (p 208) and Quiz #2.
7	September 28 & 30	Review Quiz #2; Parens Patriae, Delinquency & Approaches to Juvenile Justice; School Bullying & Status Offenses; Recidivism; Read Chapter 6: Dispute Resolution (pgs 209-242); Review Terminology (p 242); Assign Quiz #3 (Due 10/7 with Weekly Assignment #4).
8	October 5 & 7	Incarceration Rates & Alternatives to Incarceration; Parole, Probation & Expungement; Jails, Prisons, Home Detention & Diversion Programs; Read Chapter 7: Criminal Courts (pgs 243-273); Review Terminology (p 273); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #4: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-8 (p 242), 1-7 (p 273) and Quiz #3.
9	October 12 & 14	Review Quiz #3; Habeas Corpus & Key Constitutional Rights of the 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th & 14th Amendments; Reasonable Suspicion & Probable Cause; Stop & Frisk; Search & Seizure; Valid Warrants; Custodial Interrogation; Effective Assistance of Counsel & Plea Agreements; Exclusionary Rule & Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doctrine; Read Chapter 8: Juries (pgs 274-311); Review Terminology (p 312); Assign Quiz #4 (Due 10/21 with Weekly Assignment #5).
10	October 19 & 21	Malum In Se & Malum Prohibitum; Person, Property & Inchoate Crimes; Concurrences of Act & Intent; Actual & Legal Causation; Implied & Expressed Malice; Read Chapter 9: Law and Social Control (pgs 313-379); Review Terminology (p 380); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #5: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-12 (pgs 311-312), 1-7 (p 380) and Quiz #4.
11	October 26 & 28	Review Quiz #4; Legislative Solutions and Social Control continued; Infractions, Misdemeanors & Inherently Dangerous Felonies, Felony Murder Rule; Read Chapter 9: Law and Social Control (pgs 313-379); Review Terminology (p 380); Assign Quiz #5 (Due 11/4 with Weekly Assignment #6).
12	November 2 & 4	Retribution, Deterrence, Incapacitation & Rehabilitation; Mandatory Minimum Sentencing; Proportionality; Corporal & Capital Punishment; Unusually Cruel Punishment; Restitution & Restoration; Read Chapter 10: The Impact of Law on Society (pgs 381-439); Review Terminology (p 440); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #6: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-7 (p 380), 1-11 (p 439) and Quiz #5.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
13	November 9 (No Class Wednesday the 11th, Happy Veteran's Day!)	Review Quiz #5; Community Engagement; Escalation & Deescalations of Force; Alternatives to Lethal Force; Broken Windows, Predictive Policing, Crime Mapping, Body Cameras & Crisis Intervention Training; Read Chapter 11: Law and Racial and Ethnic Equality (pgs 441-501); Review Terminology (p 502); Assign Quiz #6 (Due 11/18 with Weekly Assignment #7).
14	November 16 & 18 (Happy Thanksgiving!)	Judicial Review; Redressing Grievances & Burdens of Proof; Grand & Trial Juries; Bifurcated Trials; Duties of Prosecution, Defense & Judiciary; Concurrent & Consecutive Sentencing; Appeals & Writs of Certiorari; The Innocence Project; Read Chapter 12: Privacy and Surveillance (pgs 503-541); Review Terminology (pg 542); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #7: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-6 (p 502), 1-10 (p 542) and Quiz #6.
15	November 23 & 25	Review Quiz #6; Recidivism, Incarceration Rates & Alternatives to Incarceration; Parole, Probation & Expungement; Jails, Prisons, Home Detention & Diversion Programs; Solitary Confinement, Prison Reform, Prop 47 & Realignment; Assign Weekly Assignment #8 and Assign Quiz #7 (Due 12/2).
16	November 30, December 2 & 7	Trends, Challenges, & Future of Justice in the United States; Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #7: Responses to Chapter Review Questions: 1-6 (p 502), 1-10 (p 542) and Quiz #7 (12/2); Review for Final Examination (12/7); Final Thoughts.
Final Exam	Tuesday, December 15	Submit Final Examination by no later than 12:00 PM (high noon) on Tuesday, December 15, the day our Final Examination is scheduled.