

**San José State University**  
**College of Health and Human Sciences/Justice Studies**  
**JS121-01, Media and Justice, 23243, Spring, 2020**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s):	Gil Zamora
Office Location:	MacQuarrie Hall
Telephone:	408-348-9225, or Google Hangouts
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Office Hours:	Wednesdays, 11:00AM - 1:00PM, and by appointment.
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday and Thursday, 3PM - 4:15PM
Classroom:	MacQuarrie Hall, 523
Prerequisites:	Any 100W
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	

**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.

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU on Spartan App Portal](http://one.sjsu.edu) <http://one.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources) ([http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student\\_resources](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources))

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

**LO1:** To understand 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.

**LO2:** To learn about race theories and media studies methodology in relation to justice issues.

**LO3:** To challenge students' 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.

**LO4:** To learn collaboratively and interactively with other students through class discussion, fishbowls, peer conversations, small group and large group discussions.

To practice reading comprehension and analysis of scholarly material, to identify the thesis statement and supporting points of that material, to incorporate these skills into class discussions.

**LO5:** To improve the students writing skills with weekly written assignments.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

#### **Textbook**

No textbook is required for this course.

#### **Other Readings**

*THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE, 4th EDITION, (2000), Strunk and White*

#### **Library Liaison**

Nyle Monday (Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu) (408) 808-2041 <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

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.

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.

### **Writing, Assignments, Evaluations, and Final Examination**

All assignments must be written in formal English, with college-level writing mechanics and APA-style formatting, inclusive of in-text citations and references. Each written assignment may be required to be submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) prior to submission to the instructor. Written assignments will be turned in at the start of the class period. If assignments are submitted via e-

mail as an attachment, it must be in one of the following formats: MS Word (\*.doc or \*.docx), Pages (\*.pages) or Rich Text Format (\*.rtf). Copied and pasted assignments, into the body of an e-mail, will not be accepted.

The process of writing your papers is designed to improve your ability to critically analyze a published peer reviewed research article. This assignment will enhance your overall outlining skills. It will increase your ability to read professional writing, recognize valid research and understand the results, and it will aid you in identifying weaknesses in your writing and research methodology. Learning to recognize flaws in grammar and logic will improve your ability to recognize those flaws in your own writing. In addition, the assignment requires you to utilize your skills locating scholarly articles.

Full participation is required as well as thoughtful participation. There are no make-up opportunities for class participation assignments. These assignments will vary throughout the semester. Students will participate in various small group and individual writing assignments designed to develop skills related comprehension, the extrapolation of pertinent information, mechanics, outlining, and critical analysis. Please note, some in-class writing assignments will be worth points, while others will be credit/no credit.

The culminating activity for this course may include a final examination, a final research paper or project, or a final creative work or performance.

### **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 your comprehension of the course material, and knowledgeable application of theory, one must be able to write in a clear and effective manner. Always carefully proofread your assignments before submitting them. Late assignment submissions will not be accepted without a valid excuse which can be documented and substantiated in a timely manner.

A grade of “C” is required to pass this course.

Weekly Assignments (up to 6) 40%

Quizzes (up to 6) 10%

Final Examination 30%

Participation 20%

### **Grading Scale**

A+ = 100+	B+ = 88 - 90	C+ = 77 - 79	D+ = 67 - 69	F = 59 and below
A = 96 - 100	B = 85 - 87	C = 73 - 76	D = 64 - 66	
A- = 91 - 95	B- = 80 - 84	C- = 70 - 72	D- = 60 - 63	

Note: Extra credit will not be awarded and late assignments will not be accepted.

## **Classroom Protocol**

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.

Students are responsible for all missed notes, materials and announcements due to absence (i.e., do not e-mail the instructor asking about what you missed). You are encouraged to exchange contact information with someone in class just in case.

Review the **Student Expectations** page of the instructor's web site carefully (<http://www.justice-studies.com>) for further details regarding proper classroom etiquette.

## **University Policies**

Students should know that the University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial\\_affairs/Academic\\_Integrity\\_Policy\\_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.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.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial\\_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

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.

## **Additional Information**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the AEC (Assessible Education Center) formerly name DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

## **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta

video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

#### Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services 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. The LARC website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

#### 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. The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

#### Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>.

#### 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. Looking for academic advice or maybe just some tips about how to navigate your way around SJSU? Check out the CASA Student Success Center! It's also a great place to study, and you can check out laptops. Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact information: 408.924.2910. Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>.

## JS121-01 / Media and Justice, Spring 2020, T-Th

### Course Schedule

Week/Lesson/ Module	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	<b>Topic(s):</b> Introduction/Class Syllabus/ Overview/ Q&A
2	<b>Topic(s):</b> <b>Topic(s):</b> Race Theories and other relevant theories
3	<b>Topic(s):</b> Review of Writing Assignment #1-In class discussion
4	<b>Topic(s):</b> Review of Writing Assignment #2-In class discussion
5	<b>Topic(s): Media Response and Review of Writing Assignment, In class discussion</b>
6	<b>Topic(s):</b> Group work discussion, Writing assignment #3 <b>Article Critique Due</b>
7	<b>Topic(s):</b> <b>Media</b> Response assignment and Group work discussion Midterm next week—will review what to expect
8	<b>Topic(s):</b> <b>Midterm</b>
9	<b>Topic(s):</b> <b>Review of midterm and discussion</b>
10	<b>Topic(s):</b> Film Response assignment
11	<b>Topic(s):</b> Review of Writing Assignment #4-In class discussion
12	<b>Topic(s):</b> Review of Writing Assignment #5-In class discussion
13	<b>Topic(s):</b> media review/discussion Guest Speaker this week!
14	<b>Topic(s):</b> Paper presentations <b>Final Research Paper Presentations begin</b>
15	<b>Topic(s):</b> Final Paper Presentations and reminder of SOTES <b>FINAL research paper</b>
16	<b>Topic(s):</b> Final Paper Presentations
Final Exam	Venue and Time TBD