

San José State University
College of Social Sciences / Department of Justice Studies
JS 107-80, Justice Management and Ethics, Fall 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Natalie Birthelmer
Office Location:	HB 125
Telephone:	(408) 924-2753 x42753 – email is the best way to reach me!
Email:	natalie.birthelmer@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	T/R 1:20-2:45PM online – email me for a Zoom invite
Class Days/Time:	Asynchronous online
Classroom:	Canvas
Prerequisites:	Upper Division Standing

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts an online delivery format. All course work will take place on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). See [University Policy F13-2](#) for more details.

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](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) on [Spartan App Portal](#) to learn of any updates.

Course Description

The theory and practice of managing justice system agencies, including organizational change and contemporary issues. In-depth examination of ethical challenges in managing justice agencies, and strategies for ensuring ethical practices.

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Note: A grade of "C" or better is required for graduation.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Confidently discuss contemporary issues and change in justice management and ethics. (CLO1)
2. Recognize ethical challenges faced by justice agencies, and discuss strategies for ensuring ethical practices. (CLO2)
3. Write papers examining ethical challenges faced by justice agencies. (CLO3)
4. Make critical assessments of and draw logical conclusions about readings on justice management and ethics. (CLO4)

5. Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level. (CLO5)

Required Texts

Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2018). *Critical Issues in Crime and Justice: Thought, Policy, and Practice (3rd Ed.)*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. (ISBN: 9781544307992)

Stevenson, B. (2015). *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. New York, NY: Penguin Random House LLC. (ISBN: 9780812984965)

Other Readings

Additional readings will be posted on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#).

Consider investing in an APA style guide, there are many different formats including a pocket size one, that are very affordable (e.g. ISBN: 9781433805608)

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, nyle.monday@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

This course is an interactive seminar with online activities and focused discussions via discussion boards. *Just Mercy* papers, short project activities and discussion board prompts are used to develop and enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills through the application of theoretical principles in criminology to real world scenarios. Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning, which, in an asynchronous online format, includes self-motivated independent study. All coursework must be thorough, complete, and thoughtful and should reveal command of the course content as well as of critical reading, writing, speaking, and thinking.

1. **Late work will not be accepted.** Missing, late, or plagiarized work will receive a grade of zero points.
2. Assignment will be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise directed.
3. **E-mailed assignments will not be accepted.** Assignments will be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise directed. If you have issues uploading to Canvas, it is your responsibility to contact the IT department and resolve the issue. I will not accept technical issues as an excuse for late or missing assignments.
4. **Quality of writing must be appropriate for university level education and must include proper APA citation.** Refer to an APA style guide or the [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\) from Purdue University](#) at if unclear about APA guidelines on in-text citations and reference pages.
5. To ensure compliance with academic integrity policies, all work in this class must be turned in through Turnitin.com on Canvas, a plagiarism detection service with which San José State University contracts. Turnitin.com is integrated into all Canvas assignments, but students are responsible for ensuring their work is accepted and evaluated by Turnitin.com. **Inability to do so will lead to an incomplete grade for affected assignments.**

“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 practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Discussions & Small Projects (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

This class should be engaging for everyone, and therefore relies on student participation. All students will be expected to have read all assigned readings and completed any assignments every week, to be able to successfully participate in class discussions. Be ready to engage, debate, and discuss!

You will be required to respond to weekly discussion boards, as well as engage with your peers by responding to their posts at least twice on separate days.

Additionally, some discussion boards will require small research or creative projects. Detailed information will be provided on Canvas.

***Just Mercy* Papers (CLO3)**

In conjunction with reading the book *Just Mercy*, you will write 4 papers (25 points each) on assigned chapters in the book *Just Mercy*. You will complete a series of tasks for assigned readings, including: (1) connecting reading to assigned chapters in the textbook, (2) comparing current news items to the issues discussed in the reading, and (3) generating discussion questions. These tasks should reflect your own analysis of the reading. I am looking for a thoughtful and analytical discussion of the issues. Please cite page numbers when referring to specific material from the reading.

Students must reference any sources in APA-style formatting. Students should refer to an APA style guide or the Online Writing Lab (OWL) from Purdue University at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/> if unclear about APA guidelines.

A handout detailing the expectations, content, formatting, and submission requirements will be provided on Canvas.

***Just Mercy* Presentation (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)**

In groups of up to 3, you will present a topic discussed in the book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson by completing a series of tasks, including: (1) summarizing the issues related to the topic (2) detailing cases described in *Just Mercy* that deal with the topic (3) generating discussion questions, (4) presenting ideas of policy changes to resolve the issues presented. As a group, you will create a power point to guide your presentation and record your presentation using Zoom or Canvas Studio. Your discussion of the material should be thoughtful and analytical, and invite participation by all students. Further instructions and expectations will be discussed.

Midterm (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

The midterm will cover the first half of the semester. It will be open notes, and include multiple choice, short, and long answer questions. The midterm will be taken on Canvas.

Final Examination or Evaluation (CLO1, CLO2, CLO4, CLO5)

The final exam will cover the second half of the semester. It will be open notes, and include multiple choice, short, and long answer questions. The final exam will be taken at the time of the scheduled in-class final on Canvas.

Technical difficulties during exams

- Internet connection issues:

Canvas autosaves responses a few times per minute as long as there is an internet connection.

If your internet connection is lost, Canvas will warn you but allow you to continue working on your exam. A brief loss of internet connection is unlikely to cause you to lose your work.

However, a longer loss of connectivity or weak/unstable connection may jeopardize your exam.

- Other technical difficulties:

Immediately email the instructor a current copy of the state of your exam and explain the problem you are facing. Your instructor may not be able to respond immediately or provide technical support. However, the copy of your exam and email will provide a record of the situation. Additionally, you must contact IT services immediately and include a case number in your email to the instructor.

- Contact the SJSU technical support for Canvas:

Technical Support for Canvas

Email: ecampus@sjsu.edu

Phone: (408) 924-2337

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

Total Percent	Grade	Point Range
98.0 to 100	A plus	490 - 500
94.0 to 97.99	A	470 - 489
91.0 to 93.99	A minus	455 - 469
88.0 to 90.99	B plus	440 - 454
84.0 to 87.99	B	420 - 439
81.0 to 83.99	B minus	405 - 419
78.0 to 80.99	C plus	390 - 404
74.0 to 77.99	C	370 - 389
71.0 to 73.99	C minus	355 - 369
68.0 to 70.99	D plus	340 - 354
64.0 to 67.99	D	320 - 339
61.0 to 63.99	D minus	305 - 319

<i>Just Mercy</i> Papers	100 pts / 20%
<i>Just Mercy</i> Presentation	100 pts / 20%
Discussions	100 pts / 20%
Midterm	100 pts / 20%
Final	100 pts / 20%
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Total	500 pts / 100%

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](#).

Academic Integrity / Plagiarism

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7 \[pdf\]](#) requires 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. Visit the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](#) website for more information.

- **Plagiarism:** San José State University defines plagiarism as the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving appropriate credit, regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism includes:
 - 1.2.1 Knowingly or unknowingly incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work;
 - 1.2.2 Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawing, sculptures, or similar works as one's own.
- **Sanctions:** There shall be two major classifications of sanctions that may be imposed for violations of this policy: Academic and Administrative. Academic sanctions are actions related to the coursework or grades determined by the faculty member. Administrative sanctions are actions that address a student's

status on campus and are determined by the Office of Student Conduct & Ethical Development.

Academic sanctions and administrative sanctions may be imposed simultaneously.

To ensure compliance with academic integrity policies, all work in this class must be turned in through Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection service with which San José State University contracts. Students are responsible for ensuring their work is accepted and evaluated by Turnitin.com. Inability to do so will lead to an incomplete grade for affected assignments. In case plagiarism is detected once, the plagiarized assignment will receive a failing grade. If plagiarism is detected multiple times, students will receive a failing grade for the course.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

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 inform me immediately by emailing me or by making an appointment with me as soon as possible. [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) (AEC) to establish a record of their disability.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
 - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

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.

JS 107-80 / Justice Management and Ethics, Fall 2022

The following schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be posted as early as possible on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	F – 8/19	Introduction & Review of Syllabus
Module 1: Introduction to Management and Ethics		
2	8/22 – 8/26	Discussion 1 due CICJ Chapter 2: The Importance of Ethics in Criminal Justice CICJ Chapter 3: Unleashing the Power of Criminal Justice Theory
3	8/29 – 9/2	Discussion 2 due CICJ Chapter 7: Race and Crime <i>Thirteenth</i> <i>Just Mercy</i> , Chapters 1-3 (pp. 3-66)
Module 2: Police-Management and Ethics		
4	9/5 – 9/9	Discussion 3 due CICJ Chapter 15: Police Theory <i>Policing the Police (Frontline S34 E10)</i>
5	9/12 – 9/16	Just Mercy Paper 1 due CICJ Chapter 16: Contemporary Police and Society CICJ Chapter 17: Police Organization and Administration
Module 3: Courts-Management and Ethics		
6	9/19 – 9/23	Discussion 4 due CICJ Chapter 18: Public Policy CICJ Chapter 19: American Courts <i>Just Mercy</i> , Chapters 4-6 (pp. 67-126)
7	9/26 – 9/30	Just Mercy Paper 2 due CICJ Chapter 20: The Juvenile Justice System <i>Second Chance Kids (Frontline S35 E11)</i>
8	10/3 – 10/7	Midterm Midterm Review
9	10/10 – 10/14	Discussion 5 due CICJ Chapter 21: Why Are There So Many Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System? <i>Just Mercy</i> , Chapters 7-10 (pp. 127-202)
10	10/17 – 10/21	Discussion 6 due CICJ Chapter 22: Wrongful Convictions in the United States <i>The Confessions (Frontline S29 E3)</i>
Module 4: Corrections-Management and Ethics		
11	10/24 – 10/28	Just Mercy Paper 3 due Discussion 7 due

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		CICJ Chapter 23: The Philosophical and Ideological Underpinnings of Corrections <i>Last Days of Solitary (Frontline S33 E19)</i>
12	10/31 – 11/4	Discussion 8 due Canvas: Prison Nurseries: Experiences of Incarcerated Women During Pregnancy Canvas: An Inside Job: The Role Correctional Officials Play in the Occurrence of Sexual Assault in U.S. Detention Centers
13	11/7 – 11/11	Discussion 9 due Canvas: Prisons Do Not Reduce Recidivism: The High Cost of Ignoring Science <i>Breaking the Cycle</i> <i>Just Mercy, Chapters 11-14 (pp. 203-274)</i>
14	11/14 – 11/18	Just Mercy Paper 4 due Discussion 10 due CICJ Chapter 24: Community Corrections, Rehabilitation, Reintegration, and Reentry Canvas: Economic Impediments to Women’s Success on Parole: “We Need Someone on our Side” <i>Life on Parole (Frontline: Season 35, Episode 18)</i>
15	11/21 – 11/25	Happy Thanksgiving
16	11/28 – 12/2	Presentations due CICJ Chapter 25: Restorative Justice in Theory
17	12/5 – 12/6	Final Review
Final Exam	R – 12/8	On Canvas