



**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS 189-81 Senior Seminar**  
**CRN46104, Fall 2021**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Jodie Warren
<b>Contact Information</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:jodie.warren@sjsu.edu">jodie.warren@sjsu.edu</a> (Best way to contact me) Office Phone: 408-924-8451 (most likely won't reach me here) <a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/2744634778">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/2744634778</a> (OH zoom only for this semester)
<b>Office Location and Hours</b>	Drop in: via zoom T 1:00- 2:00,3:45-4:45 or by appointment.
<b>Canvas Course Website</b>	<a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1433612">https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1433612</a> Login using your Tower ID Card and Password → Courses → JS 189
<b>Lecture Day/Time/zoom</b>	Tuesday/Thursday 2:15-3:30
<b>Prerequisites</b>	Senior standing in final semester; Justice Studies or Forensic Science major; JS 100W and JS 114 with a "C or better"; Department Consent
<b>Library Liaison</b>	Monday, Nyle Email: <a href="mailto:Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu">Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Lib Guide</b>	<a href="http://libguides.sjsu.edu/content.php?pid=57768&amp;sid=2450175">http://libguides.sjsu.edu/content.php?pid=57768&amp;sid=2450175</a>

## Course Format

The mode of instruction for this course is synchronous online. Reliable access to a computer and the internet is 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://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/microsoft-students/index.html>

**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 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).

## **E-mail Policy**

Feel free to e-mail the instructor at any time (I check several times per day); however, please adhere to the email 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., JS189, 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.

**Senior Seminar: Contemporary Problems, JS189-02, Fall, 2020**

2. E-mailed inquiries should be relatively short in nature. Students should make an appointment to meet 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.

## **Course Description**

Identification, discussion and analysis of selected problems in justice and miscarriages of justice. A major term paper on a selected topic is required. Prerequisite: Senior standing in final semester; Justice Studies or Forensic Science major; JS 100W and JS 114 with a "C or better"; Department Consent

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

## **Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives (LO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to [LO1-5]:

1. Demonstrate their ability to complete a formal research paper that (a) synthesizes relevant scholarly sources; (b) reflects professional formatting and writing standards (APA format); (c) addresses relevant policy needs (such as necessary reforms) to solving tangible social or forensic problems; (d) contributes to our collective understanding of concepts and approaches to "justice," however defined (social justice, criminal justice, community justice, and so forth).
2. Demonstrate their ability to present scholarly work to an audience of their peers.
3. Demonstrate a working understanding of "evidence-based" approaches to social problems and public policy. As a culminating skill set in our program, students should demonstrate their ability to apply scientific/social scientific (and otherwise rational) forms of reasoning, argumentation, research, and support in forming any particular worldview or position in the pursuit of "justice" and addressing social problems in our communities/societies.
4. Demonstrate their ability to undertake a critical analysis of a contemporary problems relevant to miscarriages of justice.
5. read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level that appropriately reflects the cumulating experience of their justice studies major.

## **Required Texts/Readings:**

**Required Readings** (ISBN: 9781544338972) Mallicoat, S. L. (2020). *Crime and criminal justice: Concepts and controversies* (2nd Ed.). Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Students can rent an electronic copy of the textbook via

<https://www.vitalsource.com/referral?term=9781544365152>

The 120 day rental should take you to the end of the semester which is more than enough.

**Additional Readings** will be posted on Canvas

## **Assignments**

1. *Current events (10%): Students will be required to submit two current event summaries relevant to our justice system. Students will submit a 1-page referenced write-up per assignment. [LO4-5]*
2. *Presentation and Participation (40%) Each student will be responsible for offering one in-class presentation of a specific miscarriage of justice. [LO 2-5]  
A schedule of presentations will be provided; Following each presentation, students should be prepared to pose questions to the class to facilitate class discussion. While the instructor will moderate discourse, students are largely responsible for engaging in inquiry and discussion. Participation is expected weekly and will involve discussion of the readings. Sitting silently in class is not sufficient for participation marks.*
3. *Quizzes 10%: Two quizzes will cover the course material/lectures building up to those weeks [LO 5]*
4. *Topic Materials and Final paper 30%: Each student will write a 15-16 page policy paper (not including the cover page or references) analyzing a justice-related topic as a requirement for this course. Students can choose their topic based on their own research interests, but the topic must be communicated with the instructor through the submission of Topic Materials (see course schedule). An outline will be provided for this. No paper will be accepted without previous communication and approval. [LO1-5]*
5. *OpEd assignment 10%: As a graduating senior, you have an educated opinion and so you have a writing assignment where you can share that opinion. [LO 5]*

***All assignments must be completed to fulfill the requirements of the course and class attendance is required***

## Grading Scale for All Assignments

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>
A plus (+)	97-100	C plus (+)	77-79.9	F	<60
A	94-96.9	C	74-76.9		
A minus (-)	90-93.9	C minus (-)	70-73.9		
B plus (+)	87-89.9	D plus (+)	67-69.9		
B	84-86.9	D	64-66.9		
B minus (-)	80-83.9	D minus (-)	60-63.9		

All assignments are graded based on adherence to directions, thoroughness, thoughtfulness, clarity, and logic.

Note: **A grade of C or better is required for all Justice Studies major and minor coursework, and desirable for students enrolled in the Forensic Science majors and/or minor.**

## Class Protocol and Policies

- Late assignments submitted will NOT be accepted and results in an automatic fail unless extraordinary, unless documented circumstances exist or a doctor's note is presented. Avoid missing labs. Make-up sessions may not be available. Should you know in advance of any extenuating circumstances that conflict with such sessions, it is your responsibility to inform your professor. The possibility for submitting an alternative assignment may be granted at the discretion of the professor, but be advised that such undertaking will be quite demanding. If there is any doubt about the requirements for an assignment, or due dates/times, re-read the directions of the assignment and/or schedule. If your question(s) remains unanswered, contact your professor for clarification.
- Attendance and class participation is expected. It is essential that you come to class prepared. Therefore, it is your responsibility to stay on top of your readings, complete assignments on time, and participate in class discussions. Lack of adequate participation *will* result in pop quizzes, which *will* count toward your final grade.
- The use of cell phones is NOT PERMITTED during class. Students caught using their phone will be asked to surrender it for the remainder of the lecture or excused from the class. Laptops are permitted for course assignments and note-taking only.

## Student Resources

### Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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) located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center assists students in the development of their full academic potential and motivates them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skill assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center located in Room 126 in Clark Hall offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, including one-on-one tutoring sessions and numerous writing workshops. All services are free for SJSU students. <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>

### **CoSS ACCESS Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center in the College of Social Sciences provides advising for undergraduate students majoring or wanting to major in programs offered in CoSS Departments and Schools. All CoSS students and students who would like to be in CoSS 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. If you are looking for academic advice or even tips about how to navigate your way around SJSU, check out ACCESS Student Success Center. Location: Clark Hall room 240. Contact information: [socsci-success@sjsu.edu](mailto:socsci-success@sjsu.edu) Website: <https://pdp.sjsu.edu/access/> . The CoSS Student Success Center also provides study space and laptops for checkout.

### **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/>

## Important Dates This Semester

### University Calendar: \*

Thursday, Aug. 19	First Day of Instruction Late Registration begins on MySJSU at 7am
Friday, Aug. 27	Waitlist ends
Saturday, Aug 28	<a href="#">Permission number</a> is required to add a class
<b>Tuesday, Aug. 31</b>	<b>Last Day to Drop Classes without a "W" Grade</b>
Wednesday, Sept. 1	<a href="#">Late Drop Petition</a> required <b>Last Day to Add Classes via MySJSU</b>
<b>Wednesday, Sept.8</b>	Last Day to submit Audit   Credit/No-Credit Option Request ( <i>DocuSign</i> ) Last Day to submit <a href="#">Instructor Drops</a>
Thursday, Sept. 9	Late Add Pre-Census Request requirement begins, see Forms' page for request form
Thursday, Sept. 16	Enrollment Census Date
Friday, Sept. 17	Late Add Post Census Request required Semester Withdrawal Deadline
Friday, Nov. 12	<a href="#">(AARS' Withdrawal Request)</a> Late Enrollment Post Census ends
Monday, Dec. 6	Last Day of Instruction Last Day to Complete Coursework for "Incomplete Grades"
Tuesday, Dec. 7	Faculty Web Access for Grade Posting opens at 8 am
Wed-Fri, Dec. 8-10; Mon-Tue, Dec. 13-14	<a href="#">Final Exams</a>
Wed-Thu, Dec., 15-16	Commencement
Friday, Dec. 17	Grades Due from Faculty
Saturday, Dec. 18	<a href="#">Grades Viewable on MySJSU</a>

## 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.

## Instructor

Dr. Jodie Warren obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in biology at Simon Fraser University (SFU) and volunteered in this institution's cutting-edge forensic entomology laboratory where she first began taking forensic cases on-call. While attending autopsies and crime scenes as the forensic entomologist, Dr. Warren completed an Advanced Specialty Certificate in Forensic Science and Technology with honors at British Columbia Institute of Technology. She then went

on to complete a M.A. in Criminology at SFU where she specialized in constant and fluctuating temperature effects in forensic entomology. During her Ph.D. studies, also at SFU, Dr. Warren developed innovative techniques to advance current techniques used at crime scenes to age developing insects on decomposing remains. For this research, she was awarded the prestigious Dean's Convocation Gold Medal.

**Disclaimer: This is an adult level course that may cover graphic criminal cases/discussions/topics. Most of the course material will not be censored. Under no circumstances are students permitted to take photos/screenshots of any of the course materials, slides or photos. Outlines will be provided/accessible via Canvas for required topics.**

**Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. This university policy (S12-7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.**

**Tentative Course Schedule and subject to change**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>In-Class Topics</b>	<b>Readings (should be done before class)</b>
1	08/19	Course and instructor introduction	Syllabus; Academic Integrity and Student Conduct policies  www.Innocence project.org
2	08/24 08/26	Why examine miscarriages of justice in senior seminar? Innocence Project?  Policy discussion Scenario discussions from text	Chapters 1 and 2 (textbook)
3	08/31 09/02	Current events discussion & Miscarriage of Justice discussion  Miscarriage of Justice presented by me	Miscarriage of justice Ch 1 (canvas)  Search and scan Purdue OWL APA
4	09/07 09/09	Op Ed discussions  Deconstruct Op Eds	Read Op eds
5	09/14 09/16	APA review and <b>worksheet</b> Discuss readings <b>Current event # 1 due 11:59 pm Wed</b>	Miscarriage of J Ch 2 and 3 (canvas)
6	09/21 09/23	Scenario discussion from text  <b>Quiz #1- last part of class</b>	Chapters 3 and 4 (textbook)
7	09/28 09/30	Miscarriage of justice presented by me  Research a miscarriage of Justice for week 9	Miscarriage of J Ch 4 and 5 (canvas)
8	10/05 10/07	Discuss readings  <b>Quiz #2- last part of class</b>	Chapters 5 and 6 (textbook)
9	10/12 10/14	Topic Material discussion  Work on <b>Topic material (due Wednesday midnight)</b>	Ch 7 and 8 (textbook)
10	10/19 10/21	Discussion of Psychological explanations of crime	Miscarriages of justice Ch 10 (canvas)



		Op ed instructions- Discussion of ineffective counsel & Brady violation	Miscarriages of justice Ch 11 (canvas)
11	10/26 10/28	<b>Student Miscarriage of justice presentations</b> <b>-Continued-</b>	Read articles related to your paper
12	11/02 11/04	<b>-Continued-</b> <b>-Continued-</b>	Read articles related to your paper
13	11/09 11/11	<b>-Continued-</b> <b>Current event #2 due 11:59 pm</b> In class next steps assignments	Read articles related to your paper
14	11/16 11/18	<b>-Continued-</b> A biological explanation of crime or is it? Dutch family and the Mobley cases <b>Op Ed</b> <b>due at 11:59 pm</b>	Read articles related to your paper
15	11/23 11/25	Jim Crow Laws Paper exchange opportunity	Continue searching and reading articles related to your final paper
16	11/30 12/02	A discussion of a different kind of miscarriage of justice Questions regarding papers	Paper touch ups
17	12/07	<b>Final Papers are due</b> No final exam	