San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS100W-05 Writing Workshop, Fall 2011

Instructor: Natasha Kutina, M.S.
Office Location: MH 521
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Email (preferred): natashak@oesonline.com
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM or by appointment
Class Days/Time: Thursdays, 5:30 PM – 8:15 PM
Classroom: SPXC 211

Prerequisites: Grade of “C” or better in English 1B or equivalent; upper division standing; passage of Writing Skills Test; and completion of core GE requirements

GE/SJSU Studies Category: This course satisfies Area Z, Written Communication II, a University Studies requirement. Students should note that courses to meet Areas R, S, and V of SJSU Studies must be taken from three different departments.

Faculty Web Page and E-mail
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, and any additional materials may be found on my faculty web site at: http://www.justice-studies.com. You are responsible for regularly checking your e-mail regarding announcements, reminders, and any additional course materials. All course materials are posted in Adobe PDF format; you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the documents. A link to the program’s download site is available on the home page of the instructor’s web site; there is no cost to download Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Course Description and Overview
This in an integrated writing and research course designed to develop advanced communication skills which will be valuable for a career in criminal justice. Effective written communication skills are vital to success in any career, but are particularly important to the criminal justice professional. The best method for improving these skills is through extensive practice, critical feedback, revision, and examination of models of excellence in communication. Students must earn a grade of “C” or better to pass this course.
Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Course Goals

JS100W students will develop the following:

1. A clear concise, effective writing style, exhibiting the mastery of the mechanics of writing
2. Proficiency in research strategies and methodologies necessary to communicate complex ideas effectively and appropriately to both general and specific audiences
3. The ability to read, interpret, and critically analyze scholarly literature within the field, and to respond critically both orally and in writing
4. The ability to gather diverse supporting evidence from a variety of sources and appropriately cite these sources using APA-style formatting
5. The ability to effectively express a position, using organized, clear, and concise wording in a variety formats to target different audiences

Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to meet the following learning objectives:

LO1 Students shall be able to refine the competencies established in Written Communication 1A and 1B as summarized below. Satisfaction of this objective will be measured through the evaluation of outlining exercises, a research paper draft, and a research paper final draft.

1A Student learning:
1. Students should be able to effectively perform the essential steps in the writing process (pre-writing, organizing, composing, revising, and editing).
2. Students should be able to express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively.
3. Students should be able to use correct grammar (syntax, mechanics, and citation of sources) at a college level of sophistication.
4. Students should be able to write for different audiences (both specialized and general).

1B Student learning:
1. Students should be able to use (locate, analyze, and evaluate) supporting materials, including independent library research.
2. Students should be able to synthesize ideas encountered in multiple readings
3. Students should be able to construct effective arguments

LO2 Students shall be able to express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse. Satisfaction of this objective will be measured through the evaluation of article critiques of scholarly research, a critique of student work, and an oral debate.

LO3 Students shall be able to organize and develop essays and documents for both professional and general audiences, including appropriate editorial standards for
citing primary and secondary sources. Satisfaction of this objective will be measured through the evaluation periodic diagnostics (in-class written examinations) and various organizational exercises, both in and outside of class.

**Required Texts/Additional Readings/Other Materials**


**Additional Readings**

Additional readings will include scholarly journal articles for Article Critique assignments, and the Research Paper which will require online literature searches.

**Other Materials**

Students will need to purchase (3) blue books for Diagnostics (in-class written examinations), which are available at the Spartan Bookstore.

**Recommended Materials**

1. Merriam-Webster’s collegiate dictionary
2. A binder to keep all JS100W work and handouts together (everything should be brought to class each day)

**Turnitin.com**

Students will be required to register on [http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), and submit Article Critique assignments, the Research Paper Rough Draft, and the Research Paper Final Draft to turnitin.com prior to submission to the instructor. Registration information will be provided by the instructor and posted on the instructor’s web site.

**Library Liaison**

Nyle Monday ([Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu](mailto:Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu))

(408) 808-2041

[http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies](http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies)
Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/2112/index.htm. Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. The last day to drop without a “W” grade is Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

Classroom Protocol

1. Students are expected to: attend all class meetings, arrive on time, stay for the duration of the class period, and complete all readings and assignments in accordance with the dates on the course schedule. Good Participation is necessary to pass this course; roll will be taken at the start of each class meeting. Students are expected to come to class prepared to contribute to the classroom exchange of ideas and information.

2. 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.

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

Assignments and Grading Policy

Summary of Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic I</td>
<td>August 25th</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA Reference List</td>
<td>September 15th</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic and Thesis (Oral)</td>
<td>September 22nd</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article Critique I Outline</td>
<td>September 29th</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article Critique I</td>
<td>October 6th</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic II</td>
<td>October 6th</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Critique II Outline</td>
<td>October 13th</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Critique II</td>
<td>October 20th</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic III</td>
<td>October 20th</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper Outline</td>
<td>October 27th</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper Outline Critique</td>
<td>October 27th</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper (Rough Draft)</td>
<td>November 10th</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class Debate (Written)</td>
<td>November 17th</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Review of Research Paper</td>
<td>November 17th</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class Debate (Oral)</td>
<td>December 1st</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper (Final Draft)</td>
<td>December 1st</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Presentation (Oral)</td>
<td>December 8th</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class Final Exam</td>
<td>December 15th</td>
<td>8%</td>
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100%
Assignments

All handouts and assignments (except for the diagnostics and Final Exam) are or will be available on my website: [http://www.justice-studies.com](http://www.justice-studies.com). It is the student’s responsibility to have the appropriate handout for each class period. Being well prepared for class includes checking the schedule well before each class and bringing the appropriate assignment or handout to class. In some cases, a scoring guide is attached to the assignment. Download and read the scoring guide before doing the assignment, and attach a copy of the scoring guide to each assignment you submit if required (you will be advised).

Out of Class Assignments

Out of class assignments will include an online search for scholarly sources/preparation of an APA reference list, preparation for oral presentations, development of a research paper outline and rough draft, the composition of article critiques, critiques of fellow student work, and the final draft of a research paper.

General formatting requirements for out of class, type-written assignments include a cover page, page numbering, 1” margins, double-spacing, and Times New Roman 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. Several written assignments must be submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) prior to submission to the instructor (see Turnitin.com section of the syllabus). Written assignments will be submitted in hard copy format to the instructor on the day it is due, at the start of class.

In Class Assignments

Always be prepared to write in class! In class assignments (individually or in groups) will include expository responses to the critical analysis of scholarly research (Diagnostics), various APA exercises, group outlining exercises, general writing exercises as needed, critical analysis, and the final examination. Please note, Diagnostics I – III and the final exam will require the use of a blue book.

Article Critiques I & II

The process of writing an article critique is designed to improve and test your ability to critically analyze an empirical research study. Clearly, the better written an article is, the more likely it is to be accepted by the intended audience; however, research has varying degrees of quality. 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 research and writing. 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 in using the Internet to locate a scholarly article. [LO2]

Diagnostics I – III and the Final Exam

Diagnostics I – III and the final exam will be in-class written examinations designed to assess your ability to respond to examination items requiring the extrapolation of pertinent information, and critical analysis of the utility and validity of that information. [LO3]
**Topic and Thesis Write-up and Oral Presentation**
This assignment will require you to develop and refine a research paper topic and thesis statement related to the chosen semester theme. A short write-up of your topic and thesis will be required, as well as an oral presentation of that material to the class. [LO1]

**APA Reference List**
This assignment will require you to compile a reference list that will consist of (10) scholarly peer reviewed journal articles (no books, web sites, newspapers, or magazines) related to your topic, which you may and should use for your research paper. At least half of the journal articles listed need to be empirical/quantitative research studies. [LO1]

**Research Paper Outline**
This assignment will enhance your overall outlining skills; help you to realize the utility of this skill in relation to the comprehension of complex material, and to test your ability to work in a collaborative manner. [LO2]

**Research Paper Outline Critique**
This assignment will require you to critique a fellow student’s research paper outline as a preparation exercise for the completion of a research paper draft. Students will exchange research paper outlines, and via the use of a critique form, will provide constructive feedback for a fellow student to aid in the preparation of a cohesive research paper rough draft. [LO2]

**Research Paper Rough Draft**
This assignment is designed to provide you with the opportunity to develop a well thought out and written rough draft of the research paper required for this course. Utilization of the previously completed research paper outline and critique will provide you with a solid foundation for the development of a quality paper. [LO1]

**Peer Review Assignment**
This assignment is designed to help students develop the ability to critically analyze the written work of others (i.e., fellow students), which in turn will assist each student in learning to recognize area of improvement in their own writing. [LO2]

**Research Paper Final Draft**
The purpose of the writing workshop is to teach you, the student, how to read and think critically, and to communicate clearly and concisely in a professional style. This assignment is designed to provide a medium through which you can improve your research and writing skills while increasing your knowledge about the criminal justice system. Students will be required to write an 8-10 page analytical research paper. A separate handout detailing the specific requirements of this assignment is available on the instructor’s web site. [LO1]

**In-Class Debate**
The purpose of this assignment is to teach students to critically analyze both sides of a criminal justice related topic in the form of a class discussion/debate. Students will be asked to develop logical and supported arguments for both sides of a specific criminal justice issue. The second element of this assignment will allow students to work in small groups to defend their arguments in a class debate. [LO2]
Grading Policy and Late Submissions

All writing workshops are graded ABC/NC. Performance that merits a grade lower than a “C” will receive “No Credit (NC)”. University and departmental guidelines require a serious and compelling reason to drop a course; a course cannot be dropped because of grades alone.

Completion of all assignments is required to successfully pass this course, regardless of whether the assignment is for credit (i.e., points), or as a result of a late submission, the assignment is ineligible to receive points. While some assignments may not be worth credit (i.e., points), they are nonetheless still required. Your grade will be based on the points accrued throughout the semester. Grades will be determined based upon adherence to the specific criteria for each assignment. All assignments completed outside of class must follow the previously specified general formatting requirements stated under “Out of Class Assignments”.

Written assignments will primarily be graded on content; however, assignments with poor writing mechanics and APA formatting will not be accepted, or will result in point deductions. Student should reference their own copy of Concise Rules of APA Style, and may seek additional assistance with APA at: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Content Grading Rubric

**High Score:** Excellent presentation with insightful, well-reasoned analysis and discussion that demonstrates a clear understanding of the reading(s), the issue(s) and the purpose of the assignment.

**Above Average Score:** Good presentation, with somewhat less consistency but clearly demonstrates an understanding of the assignment, the issue(s) and the reading(s).

**Average Score:** Adequate demonstration of basic understanding of the assignment, issue(s), and reading(s), but needs improvement. Ideas may be underdeveloped or writing may have serious grammar or APA-related issues.

**Failing Score:** The submission of incomplete work, or the inability to demonstrate an understanding of the assignment, reading(s) or issue(s). The inability of effectively, articulating an appropriate response to the assignment.

Late Assignment Policy and Extra Credit

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the specified due date, unless instructed otherwise. Submission of a late assignment will not be accepted for credit. As all assignments must be submitted to pass the course, late assignments without a legitimate reason will still be accepted; however, no credit (i.e., points) will be assigned.

Please note that extra credit is generally not offered for this course.
Department of Justice Studies Writing Standards

1. Conformity to the American Psychological Association standards for scholarly writing. The minimum standards include the following:
   a. Consistent use of complete sentences;
   b. Correct use of grammatical constructions, punctuation, sequencing (paragraphing), referencing, hyphenation, spelling, headings, capitalizations, pagination, abbreviations, and margins;
   c. Appropriate content, clarity, conciseness, and style;
   d. Neat appearance

2. Twenty percent of the grade for each written assignment will be based solely on writing mechanics.

3. Each written assignment must not contain more than (5) novel grammatical errors and/or (5) novel APA errors (e.g., in-text reference citation, reference list).

4. When a paper is submitted that does not meet departmental standards, it will be returned (ungraded) to the student(s) for revision. The student(s) will have (3) calendar days to revise and resubmit the paper.

5. Any paper that is returned to the student(s) for revisions will have an automatic 10% deduction in the total grade for the assignment.

6. Upon resubmission, if a paper still does not meet departmental standards, the student(s) will be given a “0” (zero) for the written portion of the total paper grade, and will be graded only for required content.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/students/academic_integrity.html. 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://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/students/student_conduct_code.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.

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 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 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.

**SJSU Writing Center**

The Writing Center in Clark Hall 126 offers tutoring services to San Jose State students in all courses. Writing Specialists assist in all areas of the writing process, including grammar, organization, paragraph development, coherence, syntax, and documentation styles. For more information, visit the Writing Center website at [http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) or call 924-2308.
# JS100W-05 / Writing Workshop, Fall 2011 Course Schedule

The following course schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be provided via e-mail as early as possible.

## Table 1 Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agenda/Topics, Handouts, Homework/Assignments, Readings, Exams and Deadlines</th>
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</table>
| 1    | Thursday 8/25 | **Agenda/Topics:** Introduction; overview of syllabus; discussion of Research Paper Assignment (RPA) and potential topics; introduction of *Concise Rules of APA Style* and *Grammar girl’s quick and dirty tips for better writing* (bring textbooks to class); overview of registering on [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)

**Homework/Assignments:** Download the syllabus and RPA; download/print the Topic and Thesis, and References handout; go online and begin selection of a topic for RPA; register on [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) by Thursday, 9/1

**Exam:** Diagnostic I (in-class written exam) |
| 2    | Thursday 9/1  | **Agenda/Topics:** Mandatory Electronic Media Review at the MLK Library, Room 217 @ 5:30 PM sharp; return and discuss Diagnostic I; discuss Topic and Thesis Write-up, Oral Presentation, and APA Reference List

**Handouts:** RPA handout, and Topic/Thesis, Reference List handout (bring both to class today)

**Homework/Assignments:** Begin working on APA Reference List; begin working on Topic and Thesis Write-up and Presentation; download Academic Integrity Policy (AIP) and Student Conduct Code (SCC) – both documents can be found on the Student Expectations page of the instructor’s web site; study syllabus and RPA; bring *Concise Rules* textbook to class on 9/8 for APA Activity |
| 3    | Thursday 9/8  | **Agenda/Topics:** APA lecture/discussion; discussion about AIP and SCC documents; APA Activity; assignment of Review Article for discussion

**Handouts:** Syllabus, RPA handout, AIP, and SCC (bring all 4 to class today)

**Homework/Assignments:** Complete APA Reference List – bring 2 copies of your APA reference list to class on 9/15; continue working on Topic and Thesis Write-up and Presentation; read Chapter 1 (*Grammar Girl’s*)

**Exam:** Quiz on syllabus and RPA |
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| 4    | Thursday 9/15 | **Agenda/Topics**: Critique and discuss APA reference list in class (bring 2 hard copies of APA reference list to class today); lecture/discussion of Assessing Research, Scholarly Article Elements, and Journal Article Breakdown  
**Homework/Assignments**: Download/print Article Critique handout; complete Topic and Thesis Write-up, and Presentation; read Chapter 2 *(Grammar Girl’s)* |
| 5    | Thursday 9/22 | **Agenda/Topics**: Return and discuss APA reference lists; collect Topic and Thesis Write-ups; Topic and Thesis Presentations; review of article critique assignment; explanation of format for outlining and submitting Article Critiques; review [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) Originality Report example; assignment of article for AC#1/Diagnostic II  
**Handouts**: Article Critique Handout (bring to class today)  
**Homework/Assignments**: Download and read article for AC#1/Diagnostic II; read Chapter 3 *(Grammar Girl’s)* |
| 6    | Thursday 9/29 | **Agenda/Topics**: Return Topic and Thesis Write-ups; In-class outline of AC#1 (bring article to class today)  
**Homework/Assignments**: Complete AC#1; prepare for Diagnostic II; download, review/print Part IV: Research Paper Outline; read Chapter 4 *(Grammar Girl’s)* |
| 7    | Thursday 10/6 | **Agenda/Topics**: Collect AC#1; Assignment of article for AC#2/Diagnostic III; discuss the Research Paper Outline (RPO)  
**Handouts**: RPO handout (bring to class today)  
**Homework/Assignments**: Download and read article for AC#2/Diagnostic III; work on RPO; read Chapter 5 *(Grammar Girl’s)*  
**Exam**: Diagnostic II (in-class written exam) – bring a printed copy of the associated article and a blue book. |
| 8    | Thursday 10/13 | **Agenda/Topics**: Return and discuss AC#1 and Diagnostic II; In-class outline of AC#2 (bring article to class today)  
**Homework/Assignments**: Complete AC#2; prepare for Diagnostic III; work on RPO; read Chapter 6 *(Grammar Girl’s)* |
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| 9    | Thursday 10/20 | **Agenda/Topics:** Collect AC #2; Discussion about writing a cohesive research paper  
**Homework:** Download, review/print Part V: Research Paper Draft; Complete RPO – bring (2) copies of RPO to class on Tuesday, 10/27; read Chapter 7 (*Grammar Girl’s*)  
**Exam:** Diagnostic III (in-class written exam) – bring a printed copy of the associated article and a blue book. |
| 10   | Thursday 10/27 | **Agenda/Topics:** Collect RPO; Exchange a printed copy of RPO with a fellow student for RPO Critique; lecture/discussion about common writing issues; discussion about Research Paper Rough Draft (RPRD). Please note, RPRDs must be ready on Thursday, 11/10 and you will need to bring (2) printed copies of your RPRD to class  
**Handouts:** Part V: Research Paper Draft handout (bring to class today)  
**Homework/Assignments:** Work on RPRD; read Chapter 8 (*Grammar Girl’s*) |
| 11   | Thursday 11/3  | **Agenda/Topics:** Return and discuss RPO; review and open discussion about RPRDs; discussion of in-class debate (written portion of debate due in class on 11/17)  
**Homework/Assignments:** Download Peer Review Assignment handout; complete RPRD and bring (2) copies to class on 11/10; work on written portion of in-class debate; read Chapter 9 (*Grammar Girl’s*) |
| 12   | Thursday 11/10 | **Agenda/Topics:** Collect a copy of RPRDs; proofreading activity; exchange a printed copy of your RPRD with a fellow student; begin working on the Peer Review Assignment in class  
**Handouts:** Peer Review Worksheet  
**Homework/Assignments:** Work on Peer Review Assignment and bring (2) copies to class on 11/17; complete written portion of in-class debate  
**Homework/Assignments:** Work on final draft of RPA |
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| 13   | Thursday 11/17 | **Agenda/Topics**: Collect one copy of Peer Review Assignment; return one copy of Peer Review Assignment to fellow students; collect written portion of in-class debate; feedback on RPRD; final check-in on RPA inclusive of organization, what makes a great paper, and proofreading;  
**Homework/Assignments**: Complete RPFD for Thursday, 12/1; prepare for in-class debate on 12/1 |
| 14   | Thursday 11/24 | **THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS 😊** |
| 15   | Thursday 12/1  | **Agenda/Topics**: Collect Research Paper Final Draft; return graded Peer Reviews; in-class debate  
**Homework**: Prepare for Final Paper Presentation |
| 16   | Thursday 12/8  | **Agenda/Topics**: SOTES; Paper Presentations; discuss Final Exam; assignment of article for the final exam |
| Final Exam | Thursday 12/15 | **Location**: SPXC 211  
**Time**: 5:15 PM – 7:30 PM  
**Items Needed**: Printed copy of the associated article; blue book |