

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 115-01, Critical Issues and Ideas in Justice, Fall 2011

Instructor:	Dr. Ericka Adams
Office Location:	MacQuarrie Hall 508
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Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday 10:30am to 12:00 noon
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 1:30pm to 2:45pm
Classroom:	Sweeny Hall, Room 347
Prerequisites:	Completion of, or co-requisite of 100W

* The best method to contact me is via email.

** JS 115 should appear in the subject line of all email correspondence to me. I will not respond to emails without this subject.

Course Description

Interdisciplinary, historical and comparative examination of justice concepts and controversies, including the state's role in promoting justice and perpetuating injustice; legitimate versus illegitimate violence; human rights, stateless persons, and the international community; the relationship between social justice and criminal justice.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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

1. Critically examine social justice issues
2. Reflect upon the relationship between race, class, gender, nationality and social justice.
3. Conduct research and make recommendations for resolving social justice issues.

This course is divided into three sections:

Part I: International issues

Part II: Group discrimination

Part III: Broad societal issues

Required Texts/Readings

JS 115 Reader, available at Maple Press, 481 E San Carlos Street, San Jose.

Beah, I. (2007). *A long way gone: Memoirs of a boy soldier*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Sikes, G. (1998). *8 Ball Chicks*. New York: Anchor Publishing.

Additional articles may be provided via Desire 2 Learn.

Library Liaison

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

Classroom Protocol

Attendance: According to University policy F69-24 “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading”.

Etiquette: While in class please turn your cell phone off. Be respectful of your colleagues; side conversations are not permitted during class.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s [Catalog Policies](#) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](#) web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Grades in the Department of Justice Studies are computed on the following percentages:

98.0 – 100%	= A+	78.0 – 79.9%	= C+
93.0 – 97.9%	= A	73.0 – 77.9%	= C
90.0 – 92.9%	= A-	70.0 – 72.9%	= C-
88.0 – 89.9%	= B+	68.0 – 69.9%	= D+
83.0 – 87.9%	= B	63.0 – 67.9%	= D
80.0 – 82.9%	= B-	00.0 – 62.9%	= F

Your grade is composed of:

2 Book Critiques	20 points
3 Exams	45 points
Research Paper	20 points
Final Presentation	10 points
Participation	5 points
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Total	100 points

BOOK CRITIQUE: Students will be required to complete two 3 – 4 page reviews of “A long way gone” and “8 ball chicks”. Additional information will be provided in class.

EXAMS: There will be three exams in this course based on the readings and class lectures. Each exam will be worth 15 percent of your final grade. Material covered during class lectures from assigned readings and other sources will be incorporated into the exams.

RESEARCH PAPER: Students will be required to write a research paper on a form of social injustice in a country other than the U.S. Papers should be 10 to 12 pages in length and double-spaced. Additional information will be provided in class.

FINAL PRESENTATION: Each student will present the findings from their research paper via a PowerPoint presentation.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: For each class students will be required to bring a discussion question based on the assigned reading for the day. Students will be selected randomly to ask the class their discussion question. Students’ grade for class participation is based on, but is not limited to, the following: (1) bringing a discussion question based on the readings to each class and (2) responding to your peer’s questions/comments/arguments. I reserve the right to conduct pop quizzes if students are not prepared with discussion questions. Grades from pop quizzes will be included into students’ participation grade.

All written assignments must be submitted by the due date in class and to turnitin.com.

Class ID: 4170346

Enrollment Password: critical

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University’s Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, 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. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at 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 your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 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 [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> 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 inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit [the LARC website](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/) for more information 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>

**JS 115-01 / Critical Issues and Ideas in Justice,
Fall 2011, Course Schedule**

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/25	Introductions, Syllabus, and Assignments
2	08/30 09/01	<u>Reading:</u> Farmer, <i>Pestilence and restraint: Guantanamo, AIDS, and the logic of quarantine.</i>
3	09/06 09/08	<u>Reading:</u> Beah, <i>A long way gone.</i>
4	09/13 09/15	<u>Reading:</u> Kaplan-Marcusan et al., <i>Female genital mutilation: Perceptions of healthcare professionals and the perspective of the migrant families.</i>
5	09/20 09/22	Exam One <u>Reading:</u> Davis, <i>Race, racism, and the myth of the Black rapist</i>
6	09/27 09/29	<u>Reading:</u> McIntosh, <i>White privilege: Unpacking the invisible knapsack.</i> Library Date—Tentative
7	10/04 10/06	<u>Reading:</u> Platt, <i>The iron fist and the velvet glove: An analysis of the U.S. police.</i>
8	10/11 10/13	<u>Reading:</u> Reiman, <i>...And the poor get prison.</i>
9	10/18 10/20	<u>Reading:</u> Bernstein, <i>Liberalism and social movement success: The case of United States sodomy statutes.</i> <u>Reading:</u> Desire, demand, and the commerce of sex.
10	10/25 10/27	Exam Two <u>Reading:</u> Neither clear nor present: <i>The social construction of safety and danger.</i>
11	11/01 11/03	<u>Reading:</u> Dohrn, “Look out kid/it’s something you did”: <i>Zero Tolerance for Children</i> <u>Reading:</u> Fine and Smith, <i>Zero tolerance: Reflections on a failed policy that won’t die.</i>
12	11/08 11/10	<u>Reading:</u> Sikes, <i>8 ball chicks.</i> Book critique due
13	11/15 11/17	<u>Reading:</u> Rumbaut, <i>Immigration and incarceration: Patterns and predictors of imprisonment among first- and second-generation young adults</i>
14	11/22	<u>Reading:</u> Altheide, <i>Terrorism and the Politics of Fear</i> ; Research

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	11/24	Paper Due Thanksgiving (No class)
15	11/29 12/01	Exam Review/ Catch-up Exam Three
16	12/06 12/08	Final Presentations
Final Exam	TBA	Final Presentations