

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**FS 11, Survey of Forensic Science, 01, Fall 2013**

<b>Instructor</b>	Mary Juno
<b>Instructor Email</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.juno@sjsu.edu">mary.juno@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Office Location</b>	MacQuarrie Hall 511
<b>Office Hours</b>	Thurs 1330-1500 If you need FS major advising, or want to talk about FS 11, please make an appointment by signing up on the clipboard outside my office.
<b>Canvas Website</b>	<a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/">https://sjsu.instructure.com/</a> Login with SJSU ID → Courses → FS 11
<b>Class Days/Time</b>	Online Modules run Thurs 12:00am – Weds 11:59pm
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None
<b>Library Liaison</b>	Nyle Monday <a href="mailto:nyle.monday@sjsu.edu">nyle.monday@sjsu.edu</a> Silke Higgins <a href="mailto:silke.higgins@sjsu.edu">silke.higgins@sjsu.edu</a>

**Course Catalogue Description**

This survey course introduces students to the profession of forensic science. Topics include the history and sub-disciplines of forensic science, and the scientific methods and analytical instrumentation used for the recognition, documentation, collection, preservation, and analysis of physical evidence.

Note: Do not take this course if you have *already taken* JS 113 or FS 162.

Note: This course is required for FS majors and FS minors. Recommended for JS majors, and any student with a general interest in Forensic Science.

**Course Delivery**

This course is delivered online though Canvas. You will need a computer with reliable Internet access. Success in the course requires active participation by logging in multiple times a week for updates, to complete assignments, and to receive important and timely messages.

Canvas login: <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>

Canvas Student Guide and Resources:

[http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/student\\_resources/index.html](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/student_resources/index.html)

What Makes a Successful Online Student?

<http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/studentprofile.asp>

University Help Desk is the first point of contact for service and support to help you with password resets, login issues, email support and account requests.

Located in Clark Hall, Room 102

Phone: 408.924.2377

Email: [help@help.sjsu.edu](mailto:help@help.sjsu.edu)

Hours: Mon – Thur 8am - 9:45pm, Fri 8:00am – 4:45pm

<http://www.sjsu.edu/helpdesk/>

A.S. Computer Services Center has a computer lab with 100 computers that provided most major operating systems available from recently released versions of Microsoft Windows, to Linux, and Macintosh.

Located in the Student Union on the 3rd floor

Phone: 408.924.6976

Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00am – 10:00pm; Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm

<http://as.sjsu.edu/ascc/index.jsp>

PC Help Line assists you with troubleshooting issues you may encounter while using your PC.

Phone: (408) 924-1111

## **Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

### **Course Content Learning Outcomes**

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

LO1 Understand the roles of forensic and investigative personnel, their separate duties and how they work together.

LO2 Articulate a realistic perspective of the field of forensic science, the nature of the work, its limits, challenges and successes.

LO3 Define important terms, concepts and principles such as: “CSI Effect”, 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment, chain of custody, scientific method, pattern evidence, identification evidence, class and individual characteristics, probative value, controls, exemplars, and the Locard Exchange Principle.

LO4 Demonstrate understanding of genetic principles such as inheritance, DNA, STRs, alleles, genotype, phenotype, and PCR. Explain the history of DNA profiling.

LO5 Display foundational knowledge in the history of forensic science, the structure and organization of crime labs, the analytical processes and procedures used, the sub-disciplines and contributing sciences of forensic science, and the types of evidence encountered.

## **Required Texts and Materials**

- ❖ Regular and reliable access to the internet
- ❖ Text: *Forensic Science: An Introduction to Scientific and Investigative Techniques, 3/E*. 2009. Stuart James & Jon Nordby. CRC Press. ISBN 9781420064933
- ❖ *Virtual Labs* <http://www.pearsoncustom.com/us/vlm/>
- ❖ *The Bleeding* – Joseph Wambaugh

## Other Readings

Journal articles, tutorials and links to additional readings will be posted on the class site.

## Assignments

1. Exams (40%): There will be four exams in this class (one for each unit), and one quiz on *The Bleeding*. Format will include multiple choice, matching, true/false, short answer, diagrams, drawings and sketches, short essay and/or long essay. (LO1-5)
2. Homework (20%): Students will upload the weekly review questions (from the assigned chapters in the text). Uploads may be .doc, .docx, .pdf, or typed directly onto the assignment page. Note: do not copy the question into your work, and do not copy your answers word for word directly from the text. Both of these actions will trigger plagiarism detection. Instead, *summarize your answer to the question using your own words*, and leave the question itself out entirely.
3. Virtual Labs (15%): Students will log into the Virtual Lab Site and complete several Virtual Lab exercises during the semester. Completed data sheets and materials for each lab must be uploaded in Assignments by the posted due date.
4. Discussion Board (15%): Respond substantively to Discussion Board posts. The purpose of the discussion board is to discuss concepts, ideas, techniques, etc. Many discussion questions will be based on required readings. For every discussion question, students must post one substantive response, and two substantive responses to classmates' posts. A substantive post is one that is meaningful and specific, and moves the conversation forward. A non-substantive post is one that is vague, simply repeats or restates what someone else has already said, or just agrees with someone else. No credit will be given for non-substantive posts.
5. Paper on *The Bleeding* (10%): Students will write a short paper on this book. Details of format and grading will be distributed later in the term.

## Extra Credit Opportunities

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and will be used to augment the final grade up to 3%.

1. Join a professional organization (CAC, AAFS, IAI, etc.) during the semester and supply proof of membership by the end of the term.
2. Tour a crime lab and write a 2-page, double-spaced synopsis of the experience.  
Recommended: San Mateo County Sheriff's Crime Lab annual tour in late October.

## Late Work and Make Ups

Late work will generally not be accepted, or may be given *half credit* in some instances. Time allotted to respond to discussion questions will not be extended. If you know ahead of time that you will be offline when an assignment is due, complete it early. Real life has deadlines and so does this class. Make-ups will generally not be given unless extraordinary, documented circumstances exist.

If you are in any doubt about the requirements of an assignment, or due dates/times, please re-read the assignment and/or schedule. If your question is still unanswered, contact me for

clarification. Generally, I don't answer questions that *I have already answered* in the assignment guidelines, in a post, or on the schedule.

### **Classroom Protocol and Policies**

Please visit the following site for communication rules and guidelines that we will follow in our course: <http://online.uwc.edu/technology/onletiquette.asp>

### **Grading Scale for All Assignments**

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	94-96	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	64-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63
						F	<60

Note: A grade of C or better is required for all Justice Studies and Forensic Science courses.

### **Student Resources**

#### **Forensic Science Student Group (FSS)**

Forensic Science Students is a campus group open to all students interested in forensic science. The group meets biweekly during the semester and offers friendship, forensic science-related activities, networking opportunities, and mentorship. Members of the FSS participate and assist at conferences, CSI camps, guest speaking events, and other extra-curricular activities. FSS Peer Mentors assist forensic science students in navigating the major, understanding requirements and prerequisites, and making wise choices in their college careers. Mentors may also offer limited tutoring, and facilitate educational and professional opportunities. Contact [sjsu.fss@gmail.com](mailto:sjsu.fss@gmail.com) for more information, or to get an application for membership.

#### **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/>

## **CASA Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center located in MacQuarrie Hall, Room 533 (top floor) provides GE advising for undergraduate students majoring or interested in majoring in programs offered by CASA Departments and Schools. The Student Success Center provides also assistance with changing majors, answers to academic policy related questions, meetings with peer advisors and/or various regularly scheduled presentations and workshops. <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>

## **University Policies**

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State University. As such, students are expected to perform their own work (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests, quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to the Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and demonstrate a lack of respect for oneself, one's fellow students and the course instructor. Violations also can ruin the university's reputation and devalue of the degrees it offers. We all share the obligation to maintain an environment that practices academic integrity.

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, 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 website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is [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 in the course and will be subject to 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.

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops is available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web->

[dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html](http://dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html). Information on late drops is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/> Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

### **Important Dates this Semester**

Sept 3: Last Day to Drop without a W

Sept 10: Last Day to Add a Class

Sept 10: Last Day to Request Credit/No Credit Option

Nov 14: Last Day to Withdraw from a Course (petition required)

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

The Disability Resource Center provides resources for students with disabilities. Resources include: Academic Accommodation, Academic Advising, Adaptive Technology Center, Alternative Media Center, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program, Disabled Parking, Guidelines for Documentation of Disability, Educational Assistants, Learning Disabilities, and Priority Registration. 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. <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>

Administration Building 110

Phone: 408.924.6000 (Main Office) 408.924.6542 (Deaf and HoH) 408.808.2123 (ATC)

Hours: Mon - Thurs, 9:00am to 6:00pm; Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

### **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.

### **Tips for Success**

- 1) Because online classes are self-motivated, it is up to you to keep up with the reading and posting. Set aside a certain time every couple days to login to the class website and participate. Don't let yourself fall behind! You will not get credit for late posts or late assignments.
- 2) Create a folder on your browser toolbar titled "FS 11". Bookmark all the sites you visit during the class and keep them in that folder. That way, you'll have quick access to them when you revisit a topic or study for an exam.

- 3) If you have a question regarding course material or requirements, post it on the class site under the Discussion Board topic “Questions”. If you have a private problem or issue, email me or come see me in office hours. Don’t wait until it’s too late.
- 4) GET INVOLVED! Join the FSS. If you are a Forensic Science major, this group will provide you with an instant network of peers, friends, and mentors. Best of all, it’s really fun. And you don’t have to be an FS major to join!

### **Instructor**

Mary Juno earned her MSc in Forensic Science from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, and her BA in Biological Anthropology from San Francisco State University. Juno worked for many years as a CSI at the Oakland Police Department where she processed hundreds of major crime scenes and taught in the Oakland Police Academy. She has conducted research at the NYPD Latent Fingerprint Lab, and currently also teaches at Cabrillo College (*Police Report Writing and Forensic Investigations*) and City College San Francisco (*Criminal Identification and Physical Evidence*). At SJSU, Juno teaches JS 10, JS 100W, FS 11, FS 161, FS 162, FS 163 & FS 164. Her office is 511 MacQuarrie Hall.