

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 151, Criminological Theory, Section 02, Fall, 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dan Dexheimer
Email:	daniel.dexheimer@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Available to live chat or Skype – email to schedule time.
Class Days/Time:	Online
Classroom:	Course page is on CANVAS: https://idp01.sjsu.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing. Completion of 100W.

Course Format

This course is entirely online. As such, you must have internet access and regularly sign in to the [CANVAS](#) page to review current requirements and submit assignments. In order to be successful in this course, it is imperative that you pay close attention to all requirements and deadlines. Missing deadlines because you forgot, you were unaware because you have not logged in, or because of computer or internet issues will not be tolerated. As such, you should ensure all your communication settings are configured properly in CANVAS, logging in daily to check for announcements and upcoming deadlines, and completing assignments in advance of the deadline in the event of an internet outage.

Justice Studies Department 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.

Course Description

Analysis of the nature and extent of crime, including causation and prevention. Descriptions of offenses, criminal typologies and victim surveys. Evaluation of various control and prevention strategies.

Note: Must achieve a grade of "C" or better to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

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

SLO 1: Demonstrate substantive knowledge about the measurement of crime and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of major sources of crime data (including official statistics, victim surveys, and self report surveys)

SLO 2: Demonstrate substantive knowledge about the extent and severity of formal and informal responses to various types of crime and offenders.

SLO 3: Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the prevalence of various types of crime, and the characteristics of likely offenders and victims.

SLO 4: Demonstrate an ability to integrate and apply different theoretical perspectives to explain a range of specific criminal offenses, and be able to compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of those theories.

SLO 5: Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Walsh, A. (2015). *Criminology: The Essentials* (2nd ed.). SAGE Publications. ISBN 978-1-4833-5069-1

Available at the bookstore.

Companion study site available at <https://study.sagepub.com/walshess2e>

Other Readings

Additional readings may be assigned based on the progression of the course.

Library Liaison

Silke Higgins, silke.higgins@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2118

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Quizzes – There will be 6 quizzes on CANVAS (see schedule below). Each consists of 10-15 multiple-choice style questions drawn from the current chapters and other material. Taken together, the quizzes comprise **20%** of your overall grade. To succeed you will need to stay current with your chapter reading and any other materials provided on the CANVAS page. Quizzes will be available for 24-hours, and are timed at 10-15 minutes. Make-Up quizzes will only be given for valid, documented medical emergencies or approved school-related activities. I must be notified before the time of the quiz of your absence and documentation must be provided before a make-up will be scheduled. Additional information on the quizzes will be available on the CANVAS page.

Tests – There will be 3 tests on CANVAS (see schedule below). Each test will include several essay questions drawn from that unit's chapter readings and other materials. The exams (including the final) are NOT cumulative. Each test is worth **20%** of your final grade (**60%** total). Tests will be available for 24-hours, and are timed at approximately 75 minutes. Make-Up tests will only be given for valid, documented medical emergencies or approved school-related activities. I must be notified before the time of the test of your absence and documentation must be provided before a make-up will be scheduled. Additional information on the quizzes will be available on the CANVAS page.

“Weekly” Assignments – Each week there will be a prompt on the CANVAS page. These may entail responding to a thought-exercise prompt, watching a video and responding, learning about a current news event and applying course information to analyze it, or something similar. For each, you will be expected to provide a thorough response, submitted by the deadline. Taken together, these assignments will account for **20%** of your overall grade. Specific expectations will vary based on the assignment each week, but general guidelines and suggestions will be available on the CANVAS page. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Grading Policy

Final grades will be determined by your percentage score as follows:

A+: 97% - 100%	A : 93% - 96.9%	A- : 90% - 92.9%
B+: 87% - 89.9%	B : 83% - 86.9%	B- : 80% - 82.9%
C+: 77% - 79.9%	C : 73% - 76.9%	C- : 70% - 72.9%
D+: 67% - 69.9%	D : 63% - 66.9%	D- : 60% - 62.9%
F : ≤ 59.9%		

Extra credit, if offered, is offered to everyone. There will be no individual extra credit.

Any curving of grades is done at the end of the semester based on the overall class average.

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

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90–5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

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. 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.

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.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. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab 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 DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring,

enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

JS151 / Criminological Theory, Fall 2015, Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/20 – 8/22	Explore the CANVAS page, read the syllabus, familiarize yourself with the assignment expectations and schedule, review student policies, ask any questions to clarify your responsibilities.
2	8/23 – 8/29	Chapter 1 – An Overview of Crime and Criminology
3	8/30 – 9/5	Chapter 2 – Measuring Crime and Criminal Behavior
4	9/6 – 9/12	Chapter 3 – Victimology: Exploring the Experience of Victimization; Quiz 1
5	9/13 – 9/19	Chapter 4 – The Early Schools of Criminology
6	9/20 – 9/26	Chapter 5 – Crime as Choice: Rationality, Emotion, and Criminal Behavior; Quiz 2; Test 1
7	9/27 – 10/3	Chapter 6 – Social Structural Theories
8	10/4 – 10/10	Chapter 7 – Social Process Theories; Quiz 3
9	10/11 – 10/17	Chapter 8 – Critical and Feminist Theories
10	10/18 – 10/24	Chapter 9 – Psychosocial Theories: Individual Traits and Criminal Behavior
11	10/25 – 10/31	Chapter 10 – Biosocial Approaches; Quiz 4; Test 2
12	11/1 – 11/7	Chapter 11 – Developmental Theories: From Delinquency to Crime Desistance
13	11/8 – 11/14	Chapter 12 – Crimes of Violence; Quiz 5
14	11/15 – 11/21	Chapter 14 – Property Crimes
15	11/22 – 11/28	Thanksgiving
16	11/29 – 12/5	Chapter 15 – Public Order Crime
17	12/6 – 12/8	Quiz 6
Final	12/11	Test 3

All information is subject to change based on the progression of the course & Instructor's discretion.