

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 201, “Justice and Social Theory”, Section 02, Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. William Armaline
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Office Hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00-2:00
Class Days/Time:	Wednesdays 4:30-7:15
Classroom:	MH 526

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. will be distributed to students via email. You are responsible for regularly checking the email account you have registered with MySJSU to learn of any updates.

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

Examines classic and contemporary theories of justice, including legal, social, economic and criminal justice and their application to current social issues.

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

For core courses (JS 101, 102, 114, 151, and 189 or FS 169): Justice Studies majors have only two opportunities to pass this course with a C or better. Any student with a final grade that is C- or lower on the first attempt will be placed on administrative probation with a registration hold. Any repeating student with a final grade that is C- or lower will be disqualified from the Justice Studies degree program.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

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

1. (SLO1) Demonstrate the ability to read and apply the original work of core classical and contemporary social theorists.
2. (SLO2) Demonstrate an understanding of the role of theory in scholarship and research.
3. (SLO3) Demonstrate a substantive familiarity with specific bodies of political and sociological theory as they apply to contemporary questions of “justice” and social organization: Classic Liberalism, Functionalism, Critical Theory, Post-Modernism, Feminism, Cultural Studies, and Critical Race Theory.
4. (SLO4) Demonstrate the ability to engage with complex theories in conversation with intellectual peers (one focus of intellectual life).

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Whimster, Sam (Ed.). (2003). *The Essential Weber: A Reader*. New York: Routledge.
ISBN: 0415244277

Foucault, M. (1995 [1975]). *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. Vintage Books.
ISBN: 0679752552

Bonilla-Silva, E. (2014). *Racism Without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America*. U.K: Rowman and Littlefield.
ISBN: 1442220554

Alexander, M. (2012). *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. NY, NY: The New Press.
ISBN: 1595586431

Other Readings

All additional readings will be provided by the instructor.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Weekly Response Papers (SLO 1, 2, 3)

Each week the instructor will provide a question or writing prompt on the readings assigned for that week. Students should prepare a 3-4 page response (typed, normal margins, double spaced, 12 point font, APA format) each week, demonstrating their having read and understood the assigned material. Response papers consist of three subsections: Summary, Analysis, and Critique. We will discuss how to complete these response papers in detail in class.

Weekly response papers will account for **%50** of the course grade.

Student Led Discussion (SLO 2,4)

Response papers will also be used to facilitate our classroom discussion. To ensure that everyone shares this labor, *each week 2 students will be selected at random to lead part of that day's discussion.* Students should expect to be selected twice throughout the semester. Student performance in leading discussion will be based (subjectively, by instructor) on their mastery of assigned readings, critique of readings, and ability to apply the material to ongoing discussions in the classroom (on various social problems and research questions).

Student led discussions will account for **%20** of the course grade.

Constructing a Theoretical Framework (SLO1, 2, 3)

By the end of the semester, students will complete a “theoretical framework” as might be applied to an actual research project or question. Students are highly encouraged to complete these assignments to move forward an actual research or writing project (thesis, article for publication, and so forth). These assignments will be completed in steps such that students can garner experience in the professional research writing process.

Theoretical framework papers will vary in length depending on their context and application. That said, students can expect to complete a paper approximately 15-25 pages in length (typed, normal margins, double spaced, 12 point font, APA format).

Theoretical framework papers will account for **%30** of the course grade.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “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.”

Grading Policy

Assignments, papers, and final grades will be calculated as a percentage on a typical “100 point scale”:

98-100%	A+
94-97	A
90-93	A-
88-89	B+
84-87	B
80-83	B-
78-79	C+
74-77	C

70-73	C-
68-69	D+
64-67	D
60-63	D-
<60	F

Extra Credit is available to any student who would like to improve their grade in the course. Extra credit will be accepted until the last week of regularly scheduled classes. In order to complete an extra credit assignment, students should first meet with the course instructor to “pitch” their idea for extra credit (research paper, film/book/article review, class presentation, etc.). Once approved, students are free to work on their assignments as instructed. Extra credit is awarded based on the depth of thought illustrated and amount of effort expended.

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.

Classroom Protocol

Our classroom is a democratic space where all ideas and perspectives are welcome and encouraged. This makes it a space of free inquiry (ask all questions) and open critique—while everyone has a freedom of expression, this freedom is met also by the freedom of others to critique (there are no divine truths). This course is “rated-R” in terms of language and subject matter. We will be fearless in our inquiry and analysis, while also being mindful of and compassionate toward those sharing our democratic space.

Final note: *This is not an undergraduate course. If you will be unable or unwilling to complete the (considerable) readings each week, you are advised to drop the course.* If you find the readings challenging, don’t worry--they’re supposed to be! We will take the time necessary to leave no one behind—but you must do your part and do your best to grapple with the material *first*. This is part of the unique task of graduate school, so you might as well see it as an opportunity to grow and challenge yourself intellectually.

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](#) 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

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- 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>.

Course Schedule: JS 201 / Justice and Social Theory, Fall 2015

The course schedule is subject to change with fair notice via email by instructor.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/26	Course Introduction. What are theories and why do we use them? What is the general historical context of classic social/political theory?
1		
2	9/2	Western Enlightenment and Classic Political (liberal) Theory; <i>Read (excerpt—PDF) Rulers and the Ruled</i>
2		
3	9/9	Weber on the State, Legitimate Authority, and the Protestant Ethic; <i>Read Essential Weber (1-34; 117-199; 203-256)</i>
3		
4	9/16	Functionalism: Durkheim; <i>Read Anomie and Social Integration and The Division of Labor in Society (excerpts—PDFs)</i>
4		
5	9/23	Critical (“conflict”) Theory: Marx and Engles; <i>Read (PDF) Introduction, Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 (excerpt, 54-79), The German Ideology (excerpt, 102-156); Communist Manifesto (excerpt, 157-186); Capital Vol. 1 (excerpt, 214-300)</i>
5		
6	9/30	The Anarchists and Neo-Marxists; <i>Read (PDF) Notes on Bakunin’s Statism and Anarchy; Anarchism (excerpts, PDF, 1-70, 117-143)</i>
6		
7	10/7	Post Modernism: Foucault; <i>Read Discipline and Punish</i>
7		
8	10/14	Feminist Traditions: Liberal Feminism and Socialist/Anarcho-Feminism; <i>Read various excerpts (PDF)</i>
8		
9	10/21	Feminist Traditions: Radical Feminism and Black Feminism/Womanism; <i>Read (PDF, excerpts) Black Feminist Thought</i>
9		
10	10/28	Critical Race Theory: Basics and Political Economy; <i>Read The Case for Reparations (PDF), Racialization in the U.S. (PDF, excerpt), The Souls of Black Folk (PDF, excerpts), Racist America (PDF, excerpts)</i>
10		

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	11/4	Critical Race Theory: Ideology; <i>Read Racism Without Racists</i>
11		
12	11/11	TBA (catch up day)
12		
13	11/18	Critical Race Theory: Social Control; <i>Read The New Jim Crow</i>
13		
14	11/25	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASS
14		
15	12/2	Critical Cultural Studies: Said and Post Colonial Studies; <i>Read (PDF, excerpts) Orientalism and other various excerpts (PDF)</i>
15		
16		
Final Exam		Thursday December 10, 4:30 in regular classroom <i>Collect Theoretical Framework Papers</i>