

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
FS 169, Forensic Science Senior Seminar, Spring 2015

Instructor	Mary Juno
Office Location	MacQuarrie Hall 511
Instructor Email	mary.juno@sjsu.edu
Office Hours	Thursdays 2:00-3:00. Fridays 12:00-2:00
Class Days/Times	Friday 2:30-5:15
Classroom	MacQuarrie Hall 523
Course Website	Course documents will be posted on Canvas https://sjsu.instructure.com/
FS Lib Guide	http://libguides.sjsu.edu/content.php?pid=57768&sid=2450175
Library Subject Liaison	Silke Higgins silke.higgins@sjsu.edu
Course	JS 100W, FS 161, FS 162. Additionally, student must have applied for graduation. Class is open to graduating FS and JS seniors who will complete all graduation requirements by the end of the academic year and that have met all the prerequisite requirements.
Prerequisites	

Course Catalogue Description

Identification, discussion and analysis of selected problems in forensic science. A major term paper, presentation on a selected topic and participation on written as well as in-class assignments and activities are required.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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

LO1 Critically analyze a contemporary problem in forensic science and propose policies and practices that could be implemented to help solve the problem.

LO2 Provide oral and written presentations of the problem and its proposed solution in a manner that gives a clear introduction, rationale and purpose, addresses the issues/questions, uses an acceptable writing/speaking style, and uses the appropriate citation style.

LO3 Demonstrate reasoning and argumentation that indicates an accurate and complete understanding of the issues, use of examples, data and references to support knowledge claims, and logical presentation of ideas, drawing valid conclusions.

LO4 Think critically and solve problems using the scientific method.

Required Texts/Readings

Gilpin, A. & Patchet-Golubev, P. (2000). *A guide to writing in the sciences*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. ISBN-13: 978-0802083661
ISBN 0-262-62186-X

Recommended

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the APA, 6th Ed.*
ISBN 13: 978-1433805615

Links to additional readings will be posted on the Canvas class website. It is the student's responsibility to check the website frequently for new postings.

Assignments

1. Components of research including a statement of the problem, thesis, annotated bibliography, first draft, and abstract. (30%)
2. Poster presentation of research, with accompanying oral presentation. (20%)
3. Final paper. (40%)
4. Quizzes on various lecture topics and readings. (10%)

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

All assignments are graded based on adherence to directions, thoroughness, thoughtfulness, clarity (including writing mechanics), and logic.

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

Late Work and Make Ups

Late work will generally not be accepted, or may be given half credit in some instances. Make-ups will generally not be possible 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 directions of the assignment and/or schedule. If your question is still unanswered, contact me for clarification.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance and class participation is expected. It is essential that you come to class prepared so please keep up with the reading, complete assignments on time, and participate in class discussions. Lack of adequate participation *will* result in pop quizzes, which *will* count toward your final grade. Cell phone, iPad, and laptop use is not permitted during class.

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 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 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) 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. 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. 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.

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>. 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.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

The Accessible Education Center (. <http://www.aec.sjsu.edu/>) 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 AEC to establish a record of their disability. 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 see me during office hours.

AEC: 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.

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 SFSU, Cabrillo College, and City College San Francisco. At SJSU, Juno teaches JS and FS courses, advises FS majors and minors, and does a whole bunch of other stuff. Her office is 511 MacQuarrie Hall.

FS 169 Forensic Science Senior Seminar, Spring 2015 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change.

Week	Date	In-Class Topics	Assignments & Readings
1	1/23	Introductions, course overview ~ Science, scientific method, proof/support/evidence/anecdotes, errors, types of research, empirical data, methods, motives ~Topics for research~	Determine preliminary topic and begin preliminary research/statement Read GWS 43-60 See Canvas for additional readings
2	1/30	Research questions, feasibility and importance, deductive and inductive research, goals, hypotheses	See Canvas for additional readings Determine preliminary topic & question
3	2/6	MLK Library 2:30 Creating a working bibliography for research, APA reference lists	Refine statement of the problem Read articles, begin annotated bibliography http://libguides.newhaven.edu/jfscitation https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
4	2/13	Presentation: Research question, Statement of the problem How to write a thesis statement	Complete annotated bibliography Prepare thesis
5	2/20	Annotated bibliography due Thesis Presentation	Read GWS 69-80 Begin first draft
6	2/27	Organization of your paper Grammar	Read GWS 80-86
7	3/6	Scientific writing style, clarity, conciseness, forcefulness	Complete first draft (12-14 pages), upload to Canvas
8	3/13	Individual Meetings to discuss your draft, get feedback on your draft or poster – No Class	
9	3/20	Individual Meetings to discuss your draft, get feedback on your draft or poster – No Class	Read GWS 37-39
10	3/27	Spring Break!	
11	4/3	Poster Presentation Basics -- Content, Figures, Citations, Professionalism	Read GWS 23-35 http://libguides.newhaven.edu/jfscitation https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
12	4/10	Abstracts	Write abstract, work on second draft
13	4/17	Poster & Oral Presentations Follow up questions	Complete second draft, upload to Canvas (10-12 pages)

Week	Date	In-Class Topics	Assignments & Readings
14	4/24	Poster & Oral Presentations Follow up questions	
15	5/1	Poster & Oral Presentations Follow up questions	Make final edits to paper, upload to Canvas and turn in hard copy
16	5/8	Final papers due	