

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 158, The Prison Community, Section 01, Spring 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dan Dexheimer
Office Location:	MQH 521
Email:	daniel.dexheimer@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	MW 12:00 – 2:00, OBA
Class Days/Time:	MW 10:30-11:45
Classroom:	MacQuarrie Hall 523
Prerequisites:	SOCI 1 or equivalent
JS Competency Area:	Local, Transnational, and Historical Analyses (D)

Course CANVAS page

Course materials such as the syllabus, lecture slides, assignment guidelines, quizzes, grades, and important announcements can be found on the course [CANVAS](#) page. You are responsible for any information posted on [CANVAS](#). It is recommended that you log in once a day and check for any announcements.

Course Description

Analysis of formal and informal systems of organization and interaction among inmates and staff. Effects of the social structure and external system on the organization of the prison community.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

1. CLO 1: Analysis of formal and informal systems of organization and interaction among inmates and staff. Effects of the social structure and external system on the organization of the prison community.
2. CLO 2: Identify the various penal systems throughout the United States.
3. CLO 3: Identify and write about the interactions of the correctional system with the larger criminal justice system.
4. CLO 4: Identify and write about the critical issues facing the American correctional system.
5. CLO 5: Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Pollock, J. M. (2013) *Prisons and Prison Life: Costs and Consequences* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-978325-0

Hassine, V. (2001) *Life Without Parole: Living and Dying in Prison Today* (5th ed.). R. Johnson & S. Tabriz (Eds.). Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-977405-0

Available at the bookstore

Other Readings

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

Library Liaison

Justice Studies Subject Specialist: Silke Higgins Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu (408) 808-2118.

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>.

Quizzes – There will be 6 quizzes on CANVAS (see schedule below). These each consist of 10-15 multiple-choice style questions drawn from the current chapters. Each accounts for **2.5%** of your final grade (**15%** total). To succeed you will need to stay current with your reading and regularly attend class. 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.

Tests – There will be 3 tests covering material from lecture, readings, and assignments. Each test will include several essay questions drawn from that unit and will not be cumulative. These will be held on **Mon 3/2**, **Wed 4/8**, and **Tue 5/19**. Each test is worth **20%** of your final grade (**60%** total). All cell phones will be collected before the test is distributed and returned when you are completed. I will provide paper. 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.

Research Paper – You will write a ‘research’ paper on a self-selected topic of corrections. It will involve reviewing scholarly publications on the topic and providing such things as a review of what is known about the topic, what theories have been used to address it, and what directions research and social efforts dealing with the topic are headed. This will be between five and ten double-spaced pages, utilizing at least 3 academic sources. It will be due in class on **Mon 5/11**. The paper is worth **20%** of your final grade. You will also be required to submit the file to a dropbox on the Canvas page. There will be a 4% deduction for each day the paper is late. Additional information on the assignment is available on Canvas.

Participation – Active participation in class discussions, as well completion of possible in class exercises or homework assignments, will contribute **5%** of your final grade.

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.

Department of 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.

Classroom Protocol

Please make all efforts to arrive on time, ensure your cell phone is silenced, and do not pack up early. If you do arrive late, please enter quietly. Your attendance and active participation in discussions is critical to the success of the course and your success as a student. Be respectful of others opinions during these discussions. You are responsible for obtaining the notes for any class you miss.

Email Policies

I encourage you to email me with any questions, but there are a couple rules to follow. Email me directly, not through Canvas. Your subject line must contain the course number and a brief description of what your email pertains to (e.g. JS158 – Paper Topic). Be sure to include your name.

Class Policy

As a student, you are expected to have the syllabus and are responsible for the information within the syllabus, as well as information from class and the Canvas page. Moreover, when you have a question about the information that is readily accessible from these sources, I expect that you will take a moment to find the answer for yourself. If you ask questions about information that it is your responsibility to know or at least know where to find (e.g. ‘What are your office hours?’ or ‘What chapters are on Test 2?’), points will be deducted from your grade. Please do not interpret this to mean I am unwilling to help you. If you have questions about information or concepts or want to discuss aspects of the course, I encourage you to email or talk to me. But factual information that is readily available is your responsibility.

University Policies

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/aec) 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.

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>.

CASA Student Success Center

The Student Success Center in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA) provides advising for undergraduate students majoring or wanting to major in programs offered in CASA Departments and Schools.

All CASA students and students who would like to be in CASA are invited to stop by the Center for general education advising, help with changing majors, academic policy related questions, meeting with peer advisors, and/or attending various regularly scheduled presentations and workshops. Looking for academic advice or

maybe just some tips about how to navigate your way around SJSU? Check out the CASA Student Success Center! It's also a great place to study, and you can check out laptops.

Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact information: [408.924.2910](tel:408.924.2910).
Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>.

JS158 – The Prison Community, Spring 2015

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	---	
2	M 1/26	Introduction
	W 1/28	Ch. 1 – Prisons Then & Now
3	M 2/2	Ch. 1 – Prisons Then & Now
	W 2/4	Ch. 2 – Explaining Incarceration
4	M 2/9	Ch. 2 – Explaining Incarceration – Quiz 1 (Ch. 1 & 2)
	W 2/11	Ch. 3 – The New Bastille
5	M 2/16	Ch. 3 – The New Bastille
	W 2/18	Ch. 4 – Prisoners
6	M 2/23	Ch. 4 – Prisoners
	W 2/25	Ch. 4 – Prisoners – Review & Paper Discussion – Quiz 2 (Ch. 3 & 4)
7	M 3/2	Test 1 – Chaps. 1-4
	W 3/4	Ch. 5 – Rehabilitation Revisited
8	M 3/9	Ch. 5 – Rehabilitation Revisited
	W 3/11	Ch. 6 – Living in Prison
9	M 3/16	Ch. 6 – Living in Prison – Quiz 3 (Ch. 5 & 6)
	W 3/18	Ch. 7 – Prisons for Women
10	M 3/23	Spring Break
	W 3/25	Spring Break
11	M 3/30	Ch. 7 – Prisons for Women
	W 4/1	Ch. 8 – Prisoners Rights
12	M 4/6	Ch. 8 – Prisoners Rights – Quiz 4 (Ch. 7 & 8)
	W 4/8	Test 2 – Chaps. 5-8
13	M 4/13	Ch. 9 – Correctional Staff & Administration
	T 4/14	San Quentin Tour
	W 4/15	San Quentin Reaction
14	M 4/20	Ch. 9 – Correctional Staff & Administration
	W 4/22	Ch. 10 – Release, Reentry & the Future of Prisons
15	M 4/27	Ch. 10 – Release, Reentry & the Future of Prisons – Quiz 5 (Ch. 9 & 10)
	W 4/29	<i>“Prisons”, “Life Without...”</i> , Chaps. 1-3

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
16	M 5/4	Chaps. 4-6
	W 5/6	Chaps. 7-9
17	M 5/11	Chaps. 10-12 – Paper Due
	W 5/13	Chaps. 13-15, “ <i>Death Without...</i> ”, “ <i>Appendix...</i> ” – Quiz 6 – LWP book
Final	Tu 5/19	Test 3 – PPL Chaps. 9&10, LWP book, MacQuarrie Hall 523, 9:45-12:00

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