

**San José State University
Justice Studies 222:
Penal Policies & Justice**

Spring 2015

Instructor:	Dr. Sara M. Benson
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Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:15 – 1:15
Class Days/Time:	Fridays, 12:00 - 2:45
Classroom:	MH 526

Course Catalogue Description

A critical review of historical and contemporary theoretical models. Evaluation of current research on treatment, rehabilitation/punishment models and their use in adult and juvenile institutions and community settings.

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

As a graduate seminar, the primary learning objective is to prepare M.A. students for doctoral training and policy work. In this interactive course, students will be responsible for presenting the course readings in class, writing response papers, and crafting a final paper. Student success in the course is dependent on an active and critical engagement with the material.

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

CLO1: identify, describe, analyze, and critique arguments about penal policies and justice (measured by weekly presentations, responses, and a final paper).

CLO2: read scholarly critique as a conversation and narrate that conversation in oral and written work (measured by in-class participation and the use of correct citational practice).

CLO3: write and present original theoretical or legal work on approved topics related to penal policies and justice.

Classroom Protocol

Students should attend all class meetings. Students should be respectful of their colleagues in class discussions and during presentations. Cell phones and other disruptive devices should be turned off.

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.

Required Texts/Readings

Darius Rejali, *Torture and Democracy*

Colin Dayan, *The Story of Cruel & Unusual*

Scott Christianson, *The Last Gasp*

Alexandra Minna Stern, *Eugenic Nation*

Nayan Shah, *Stranger Intimacy*

Jenna Lloyd, Matt Mitchelson, & Andrew Burrige, *Beyond Walls and Cages*

Andrea Smith, *Native Americans and the Christian Right*

Assignments

Assignment 1: Course Presentation 25% of grade

Students will present a synthesis of the readings for approximately 20-30 minutes at the beginning of each class meeting. Each presentation should work collectively to refer the audience back to the previous week's readings, introduce new key themes and concepts, synthesize and offer a comparative reading of the primary arguments, and offer some points of discussion. Students should not feel limited by these guidelines, but they are the basic essentials of an excellent grade. Students will select their presentation topics during the first class meeting. Depending on enrollment, these may be group presentations. It is highly recommended that you write out your portion of the presentation.

Assignment 2: Class Participation 25% of grade

This seminar requires your attendance and your active participation. This portion of the class grade reflects your regular participation (your willingness to engage the material in class), but also the class periods where the entire class will present material from *Torture and Democracy*. This grade also includes the final class period, where students will each choose one week of reading(s) and describe briefly your recollection of the class discussion. This requires taking good notes during the week that your reading is discussed.

Assignment 3: Weekly Book Reviews

25% of grade

This assignment requires that students craft brief weekly book reviews (except during a student's presentation week and during *Torture and Democracy* classes). At the end of the course, students will select a review (or combine aspects of several reviews) to develop a longer book review of publishable quality. The goal of this assignment is to work on writing and revision and to adhere to length requirements and maintain clarity and purpose. In determining the appropriate length requirement, students should refer to the guidelines of major journals in the student's field (policing, law and society, theory, punishment). Further instructions on form and content will be distributed in class.

Assignment 4: Final Paper

25% of grade

In the final paper, students should select one or two major themes from the headings on the syllabus and write a paper of 15-20 pages. The paper must address some sort of archive, and explore that archive through the theoretical frameworks and debates from the course. An excellent paper will have a minimum of twenty sources. For students on the thesis and project tracks, it is entirely appropriate to use this assignment to develop an aspect of the larger project, provided that course readings are cited and given serious consideration as part of the project. Approved topics will be discussed individually with the instructor during individual meetings.

Grading Policy

No late papers will be accepted.

97-100	A+
93-96	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
63-69	D
60-62	D-
<60	F

University Policies

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.

University policy F69-24 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."

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](#) 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.

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.

- 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.

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>.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, which 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.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. 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, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

Justice Studies 222, Spring 2015

Subject to change with fair notice

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	January 23	Course Introduction and Discussion of Assignments
2	January 30	Mary Dudziak and Leti Volpp, "Legal Borderlands: Law and the Construction of American Borders" Amy Kaplan, "Where is Guantánamo?"
3	February 6	Film Screening: <i>Ghosts of Abu Ghraib</i>
4	February 13	Presentation Preparation
5	February 20	<i>Torture and Democracy</i> presentations
6	February 27	<i>Torture and Democracy</i> discussion
7	March 6	Colin Dayan, <i>The Story of Cruel & Unusual</i>
8	March 13	Scott Christianson, <i>The Last Gasp</i>
9	March 20	Alexandra Minna Stern, <i>Eugenic Nation</i>
10	March 27	<i>No class. Spring break.</i>
11	April 3	Nayan Shah, <i>Stranger Intimacy</i>
12	April 10	<i>No class. Instructor at Conference.</i>
13	April 17	Lloyd, Mitchelson, & Burrige, <i>Beyond Walls and Cages</i>
14	April 24	Lecture Film Screening: <i>The Prison: A Sign of Democracy?</i> Book Reviews Due
15	May 1	Andrea Smith, <i>Native Americans and the Christian Right</i>
16	May 8	Presentation/Class Reflections

Final Exam Due by 9:45 on Thursday, May 21, 2015