

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS121-01, Media and Justice, Summer 2015

Instructor:	Susie M. Rivera, J.D., M.S., CPCC
Office Location:	MQH 521
Telephone:	408-206-3556 or 408-504-7749
Email:	Susan.Rivera@sjsu.edu or Susie@flyprogram.org
Office Hours:	BY appointment or virtual hours Mondays/Fridays
Class Days/Time:	Online Canvas
Classroom:	Online Canvas
Prerequisites:	Prerequisites: Upper division standing, JS 100W. Restricted to JS majors and minors or with departmental consent

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, and ancillary materials may be found on canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking your e-mails or canvas regarding announcements, reminders, and any additional course materials. All course materials are posted in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format; you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the PDF documents.

E-mail Policy

Feel free to e-mail the instructor at any time (I check often); however, please adhere to the e-mail guidelines below:

1. Please include in the “subject line” the course number, your name, and a specific description of your inquiry or comment (e.g., JS121, Your Name, subject). The instructor **will not** respond to “**no subject**” e-mails, or any e-mail where the student is not identified in either the subject line or body of the e-mail.
2. Any e-mailed assignments must be sent in one of the following formats as a separate attachment: Microsoft Word (*.doc or *.docx), Microsoft Works (*.wps), or in rich text format (*.rtf). Please **do not** copy and paste any assignments into an e-mail, they will not be accepted. Always retain a copy of any e-mail with an assignment attached as proof of submission.

Course Description

This course is an interdisciplinary and comparative media examination of justice concepts and controversies, including forms of violence, human rights, undocumented persons, the state's role in promoting criminalization and social inequality, and the need for social justice and media reform. We will examine at least three contemporary media examples of racialized social problems which include but are not limited to Islamophobia, USA-Mexico border and recent/pass race riots. Students will engage in critical analysis of all different types of media: movies, documentaries, TV, TV news, social media, newspapers, op-ed pieces and commercials.

Student Learning Objectives

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

LO1: To understand how the media contributes to structural inequality by helping to create or maintain categories of social difference that impact people psychologically, physiologically, socially and culturally.

LO2: To learn about race theories and media studies methodology in relation to justice issues.

LO3: To challenge students' assumptions on the nature of social inequality and stratification particularly in regard to media stereotypes and social phobias toward people who are marginalized and disenfranchised by society.

LO4: To learn collaboratively and interactively with other students through class discussion, fishbowls, peer conversations, small group and large group discussions. To practice reading comprehension and analysis of scholarly material, to identify the thesis statement and supporting points of that material, to incorporate these skills into class discussions.

LO5: To improve the students writing skills with weekly written assignments.

Advising, Grading and DQ Policy

If the grade is less than a C (C- or lower) after the first attempt you will be placed on administrative probation and a registration hold will be placed on your record. If on the second attempt you do not pass the class with a grade of C or better (not C-, but C) you will be disqualified from the Justice Studies degree program.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

JS 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.

Required Texts/Readings

Required Readings may be provided to students electronically in addition to links to videos and other materials.

Required Textbook (Available on Amazon; ISBN:978-1-61902-327-7)

Bloom, L. (2014). *Suspicion Nation*. Berkeley, CA: CounterPoint

Turnitin.com

Through canvas, assignments will be submitted to turnitin.com and there are no additional sign in information required for this.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday (Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu)

(408) 808-2041

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

Classroom Protocol (apply applicability to online)

1. Students are expected to: attend all class meetings, arrive on time, stay for the duration of the class period, complete all readings and assignments in accordance with the dates on the course schedule. You are responsible for managing your time especially for online courses.
2. Students are responsible for all missed notes, materials and announcements due to absence (i.e., do not e-mail the instructor asking about what you missed). You are encouraged to exchange contact information with someone in class just in case.
3. Review the **Student Expectations** page of the instructor's web site carefully for further details regarding proper classroom etiquette.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. [Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html) . [Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/) . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. Last day to add is June 8th and last day to drop is June 3rd without W and June 2nd for full refund.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Summary of Assignments

Assignment	Due Date	Percentage of Final Grade
Essay #1 Media and Justice	June 2nd	2.5%
Writing Assignments	See schedule	15% (5 Writing Assignments)
Film Response(s)	6/11/6/26	10% (2 film responses)
Discussion Boards	See schedule	15% (5 discussion boards)
Final Paper (8-10 page)	July 1 st	25%
Book Review	6/22	7.5%
Pop Quizzes or additional work	Anytime	C/NC (Not more than 3)
Midterm	June 18 th	10%
Final Exam	July 2 nd	15%
		100%

Note: Failure to complete Credit/No Credit assignments will carry a point penalty at the end of the term (-5 pts per assignment).

Assignments/Exam

General formatting requirements for written assignments include a cover page, page numbering, 1" margins, double-spacing, and Times New Roman font. All assignments must be written in formal English, with college-level writing mechanics and APA-style formatting, inclusive of in-text citations and references. Each written assignment must be submitted to www.turnitin.com prior to submission to the instructor. Written assignments will be turned in at the start of the class period. If assignments are submitted via e-mail as an attachment, it must be in one of the following formats: MS Works (*.wps), MS Word (*.doc or *.docx), or Rich Text Format (*.rtf). Copied and pasted assignments, into the body of an e-mail, will not be accepted.

Article Critiques

The process of writing an article critique is designed to improve and test your ability to critically analyze an empirical research study. Clearly, the better written an article is, the more likely it is to be accepted by the intended audience; however, research has varying degrees of quality. This assignment will enhance your overall outlining skills. It will increase your ability to read professional writing, recognize valid research and understand the results, and it will aid you in identifying weaknesses in research and writing. Learning to recognize flaws in grammar and logic will improve your ability to recognize those flaws in

your own writing. In addition, the assignment requires you to utilize your skills in using the Internet to locate a scholarly article.

Essay #1: This assignment is done on the first day of class to determine pulse of the class and to gauge goals that students have in regards to learning objectives based on media and justice.

Final Paper:

Each student will write a research paper examining a specific topic area related to media and justice. Students will be allowed to choose from a predetermined list of acceptable general topics, and will then choose a more specific aspect upon which to focus. The purpose of this paper is not to specifically test knowledge, but to also force critical thinking about an aspect of the chosen topic. This paper should be no less than eight pages and no more than ten. No late papers will be accepted. A handout detailing the expectations, content, formatting, and submission requirements will be provided in a timely manner. Students will need to present papers in class along with visual aids.

Midterm and Final Exam:

Students will be required to take an essay midterm and final exam. The proper adherence to essay format, writing mechanics, grammar, and APA requirements will be essential.

Writing Assignments

Students will be required to locate media topics utilizing all different types of media that are contributing to social inequalities/controversies/political propaganda and write a short response to the issues, not more than 2 pages. Some of these assignments will be compare/contrast, instructor will make announcement. Every week students will be expected to discuss the issues in class and have a thoughtful discussion about the impact on society.

Film Responses

These assignments will help you develop your critical thinking and writing skills. You must apply readings concepts and themes to a film(s) assigned in class. This essay must be 3-5 pages in length.

Discussion Boards on www.turnitin.com

Students will be required to post original comments and/or replies to other students' comments in response to topics posted by the instructor. Chosen topics will vary throughout the term. **Registration on www.turnitin.com for the course will be required in order to participate.** A set time frame will be in place for posting of comments/replies, students will only be able to post during said time frames. Full credit (i.e., points) for each posted topic will require at least **(3)** substantive comments/replies. See course schedule for **Discussion Board** topic posting dates.

Grading Policy and Late Submissions

Written assignments will primarily be graded on content; however, poor writing mechanics and APA formatting will result in a moderate point deduction. Assistance with APA can be found at: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

In order to demonstrate your comprehension of the course material, and knowledgeable application of theory, one must be able to write in a clear and effective manner. Always carefully proofread your assignments before submitting them. Late assignment submissions will not be accepted without a valid excuse which can be documented and substantiated in a timely manner.

A grade of "C" is required to pass this course.

Course Grade Determination

Percentage	Grade
98.0 to 100	A plus
93.0 to 97.99	A
90.0 to 92.99	A minus
88.0 to 89.99	B plus
83 to 87.99	B
80.0 to 82.99	B minus
78 to 79.99	C plus
73.0 to 77.99	C
70.0 to 72.99	C minus
68 to 69.99	D plus
63 to 67.99	D
00.0 to 62.99	F

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University's [Academic Integrity Policy is available at \[http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf\]\(http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf\)](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 and the University's integrity policy, require 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 available at \[http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html\]\(http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html\)](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 and 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.

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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the AEC (Assessible Education Center) formerly name DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

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) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. [The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/).

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. [The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/).

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>.

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/>.

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Course Schedule

The following course schedule is subject to change; advance notice of any changes will be provided via e-mail as early as possible.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	6/1 & 6/2	<p>Topic(s): Introduction/Class Syllabus/Handouts/at least 2 contacts/Get books and get familiar with deadlines, books and films. There will be at least one audio lecture posted every week.</p> <p>Assignment: Essay #1 Due 6/2</p>
2	6/3 & 6/4	<p>Topic(s): Topic(s):Race Theories and other relevant theories (lecture, reading and research)</p> <p>Writing Assignment #1 Due 6/4 (additional instructions in regards to what you will be writing about will be posted for all writing assignments. Be sure to follow the instructions in the syllabus.)</p>
3	6/5	<p>Topic(s): Watch 102 minutes that changed America</p> <p>Discussion Board #1 Due 6/5 (all discussion boards will be posted on canvas—please follow instructions in syllabus)</p>
4	6/8 & 6/9	<p>Topic(s): Writing Assignment #2-Islamaphobia</p> <p>Writing Assignment #2 DUE 6/8</p>
5	6/10 & 6/11	<p>Topic(s): Watch America Soldier who is Muslim</p> <p>Discussion Board #2 Due 6/10</p>
6	6/12	<p>Topic(s): Watch Central Park 5</p> <p>Film Review Due 6/12</p>
7	6/15 & 6/16	<p>Topic(s): Watch American's War on Drugs-the last white hope</p> <p>Discussion Board #3 Due 6/16</p> <p>Midterm next week—will review what to expect☺</p>
8	6/17	<p>Topic(s): Watch Fruitvale</p> <p>Writing Assignment # 3 Due 6/17</p>
9	6/18	<p>Topic(s): MIDTERM</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	6/19	Topic(s): Review Trayvon Martin—3 links that I will post on canvas Discussion Board #4 DUE 6/19
11	6/22	Topic(s): Book Review Book Review DUE 6/22
12	6/23	Topic(s): Watch Clash of Colors
13	6/24 & 6/25	Topic(s): Watch Clash of Colors Writing Assignment #4 Due 6/24 Discussion Board #5 Due 6/25
14	6/26	Topic(s): Watch Love is ALL we need Film Review #2 Due 6/26
15	6/29 & 6/30	Topic(s): Writing Assignment and Final Paper is Due Writing Assignment #5 Due 6/29 FINAL research paper DUE 6/30
16	7/1	Topic(s): Study and Breath!
Final Exam	7/2	Final Exam☺