

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**

**Special Topics in Forensic Science - DNA and Crime (Seminar)**

**FS 160: Course Number 50115, Section 01, Fall 2016**

**Course and Contact Information**

**Instructor:** Dr. Steven Lee

**Office Location:** MH 509. On line for appointments set by email.

**Telephone:** 510-882-9036 (408-924-2048- note on professional leaves- preferred phone is 510 882 9036). Best way to contact me is by email.

**Email:** [sblee999@gmail.com](mailto:sblee999@gmail.com), [steven.lee@sjsu.edu](mailto:steven.lee@sjsu.edu)

**Office Hours:** Fridays on line- Set by appointment via email.

**Class Days/Time:** Fridays on line lectures / powerpoints and web recordings available each week. On line quizzes will be provided electronically by email. Email and Webex capable computer or laptops are required.  
First class will be held Friday 26 August, 2016.

**Classroom:** <http://oucampus.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/index.html>  
The course is also being actively migrated to canvas and when content is ready an invitation will be sent to join.

**Course Format**

The course will be delivered on-line but will have an in class midterm and final (Friday October 28 and Friday December 9 th : Times TBD- You must be available for these two in class exams). Powerpoint presentations and assignments will be delivered by distance learning. **Two scheduled quizzes will be delivered by email and will occur on October 7th and November 18<sup>th</sup> at 1700-1730pm.** Additional on line activities, quizzes and assignments will be announced on line. A webex and email capable computer is required.

**Faculty Web Page and Email checking**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/index.html> course website. The course is also being actively migrated to canvas and when content is ready an invitation will be sent to join. You are responsible for regularly checking with your email (using the address loaded to the sjsu.edu web site) 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**

Range of topics in Forensic Science which will vary by semester. Topics may include Blood Spatter Analysis, Microscopy and Trace Evidence, Forensic Art, Facial Reconstruction, and others. Repeatable for up to 9 units credit when content changes. Prerequisite: JS 10, FS 11, ANTH 157 Recommended or Instructor Permission. Justice Studies or Forensic Science major; Justice Studies minor.

This course is designed to introduce students to the basics of DNA and the application of DNA to solving crime. Students will be introduced to DNA testing utilized in criminal casework and convicted offender DNA databases. Students will become familiar with the scientific concepts, methods, practices and analytical instrumentation utilized for DNA analysis. Legal issues including national standards for quality assurance, validation, legal admissibility and training will also be covered.

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

### **Learning Outcomes (Required) and Course Goals (Optional)**

#### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

1. CLO1. Describe the highlights of the history and development of DNA laboratory techniques
2. CLO2. Explain the screening and confirmatory tests for the presence of biological evidence
3. CLO3. Select the different types of analyses to utilize for different amounts of biological evidence types
4. CLO4. Describe the scientific principles behind DNA techniques including PCR and design best practices for detecting and reducing contamination
5. CLO5. Provide descriptions of the current forensic DNA controls, quality assurance, standards, educational requirements and testimony utilized by accredited forensic DNA laboratories

## **Textbook**

Fundamentals of Forensic DNA Typing. John Butler 2010. ISBN 9780123749994. Academic Press

Books available at the bookstore and : <http://faculty.kfsc.edu.sa/jn/hakamya/documents/dna>

For copies of the figures see: <http://www.elsevierdirect.com/companions/9780123749994>

## **Other Readings**

Forensic DNA Analysis. Rudin, N. and K. Inman. 2nd Edition. 2001. ISBN: 0849302331 Publisher: CRC Press; 2nd edition (December 21, 2001) 312 pp.

Advanced Topics in Forensic DNA Typing Methodology. John Butler 2012. ISBN 978012374513-2. Academic Press ([http://220.163.113.53/G2S/eWebEditor/uploadfile/20130416175005\\_315599781486.pdf](http://220.163.113.53/G2S/eWebEditor/uploadfile/20130416175005_315599781486.pdf))

Forensic DNA Typing: Biology and Technology Behind STR Markers John Butler PhD. 2005. ISBN: 0-12-147952-8, 688pp. Academic Press

## **Required reading and Internet materials:**

Journal articles and other readings will be accessible at the SJSU library, on reserve or will be accessible on line. Citations and URLs for on line materials will be provided in assignments.

These will include:

DNA training courses <http://www.nij.gov/training/courses/welcome.htm>

STRENGTHENING FORENSIC SCIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES A PATH FORWARD 2009. NRC - [http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record\\_id=12589&page=R1](http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12589&page=R1)

NIST STRBase: <http://www.cstl.nist.gov/div831/strbase/index.htm>

NCJRS publications - <http://www.ncjrs.org/forensic/publications.html>

[http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/sciencetech/dna\\_pub.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/sciencetech/dna_pub.htm) :

Human Genome Project Links- [http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human\\_Genome/elsi/forensics.shtml](http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/elsi/forensics.shtml): and others

[http://www.forensic.to/links/pages/Forensic\\_Sciences/Field\\_of\\_expertise/DNA/](http://www.forensic.to/links/pages/Forensic_Sciences/Field_of_expertise/DNA/) :

<http://www.mass.gov/cpcs/links/>,

Genetic Witness: Forensic Uses of DNA Testing, Office of Technology Assessment; <http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~ota/disk2/1990/9021/9021.PDF>

Supplementary Texts (Optional)- Course material may include citations from the following:

Genetic Testimony. A guide to forensic DNA profiling. Spencer, C. 2004. ISBN 0-13-142338-X. Pearson Education Inc. Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458. 37 pp.

Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science (College Version), 9/E, Copyright 2007, ISBN-0132216558, RE. Saferstein, Ph.D, Prentice Hall, 672pp.

<http://vig.prenhall.com/catalog/academic/product/0,1144,0132216558,00.html>

Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation, Seventh Edition. 2004 Barry Fisher. ISBN084931691X, 544 pages. CRC Press

The Evaluation of Forensic DNA Evidence Committee on DNA Forensic Science: An Update, National Research Council 272 pages, 6 x 9, 1996, ISBN 0-309-05395-1 National Academies Press- Available on-line for free- <http://books.nap.edu/catalog/5141.html>

## Library Liaison

Silke Higgins, [silke.higgins@sjsu.edu](mailto: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>.

### Midterm and Final

**The midterm will be provided to you in person on Friday 25 March, 2016** (time and place TBD- Please block out the day as I will be setting up the exam to accommodate as many schedules as possible).

**The final will be provided to you in person on Friday 6 May 2016 at 1730-1930** (Place TBD). You should plan on being available in person for both of these dates and times.

**No make up exams are permitted.** In extreme emergencies (with a doctor's note on letterhead, signed and sealed), a 20 page single spaced paper on a research topic (Topic TBD) with 50 citations may be substituted on a case-by-case basis with pre approval from the instructor.

### Exam format:

- 70-80% Short Answer = Multiple choice, fill in, matching, true/false with explanations: Factual
- 10-15% Short Essay= 1-2 paragraph or diagrammatic critical thinking questions with application of your knowledge
- 10-15% Essay= ½ page answers with critical thinking questions

### Additional Assignments and Quizzes

Additional assignments will be required as well as short answer quizzes.

Assignments will also be required for completion on line, on time.

The quizzes will also be provided to you on line via email and you will have

15 minutes to complete them. Policy for both assignments and quizzes: 10% will be deducted from your quiz grade for each minute late in returning via email to Lee

### Grading:

Quizzes/Activities	100 points;
Midterm Exam	200 points;

Final exam	200 points;
Total required	500 points.

**Extra Credit:**

A total of 10 points may be granted for additional extra credit small group assignments and other assignments during the semester. Each assignment will be worth 1-2 points each. These extra credit points may be used to augment your final point total.

**Grading Policy**

Make-up exams will not generally be permitted. However, under extraordinary circumstances, with proper documentation and approval by the instructor, a 20 page single-spaced term paper of an instructor assigned topic, may substitute for 1 exam (with 50 recent journal citations).

**On line late grading policies**

Each minute that you are late in emailing any assignment including, quizzes, assignments and exams (midterm and final) back, 10% will be deducted from your grade, so for example, if you are late by 1 minute, the highest grade you can achieve would be 90%. If you are 2 minutes late, the highest grade you can achieve would be 80% etc.

<b><i>From -To</i></b>	<b><i>Grade</i></b>
483.5-500	A plus
467-483.4	A
450-466.9	A minus
433.5-449.9	B plus
417-433.4	B
400-416.9	B minus
383.5-399.9	C plus
367-383.4	C
< 367	F

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**

All students are expected to participate professionally in on line attendance and in group activities, be on time for all assignments and to use best practices for on line attendance (such as keeping your phone muted to reduce background noise and be attentive to respond promptly when requested).

**University Policies:** Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. You may find all syllabus related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP's Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

### **Department's 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.

### **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. If you are looking for academic advice or even tips about how to navigate your way around SJSU, check out the CASA Student Success Center. Location: MacQuarrie Hall (MQH) 533 - top floor of MacQuarrie Hall. Contact information: 408.924.2910. Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>. The CASA Student Success Center also provides study space and laptops for checkout.

# FS 160 DNA and Crime, Fall 2016 Course Schedule

Tentative course calendar including assignment due dates, exam dates, date of final exam; subject to change with fair notice

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24) 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.”

## Course Schedule

Please read the course schedule. Note: **Assignments each week are due by 1200 noon the next Friday by email to [sblee999@gmail.com](mailto:sblee999@gmail.com).** So for example, Assignments 1a and 1b that appear below in the 08/26/16 row are due by 09/02/16. Assignments 2a, 2b and 2c are due by 09/09/16 etc.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines – all assignments due at 1200 noon, the next Friday of the following week by email to <a href="mailto:sblee999@gmail.com">sblee999@gmail.com</a>
1	08/26/16	Course Overview and History of DNA- Reading Butler CH 1, CH 3 Assignment 1a: <a href="http://www.nij.gov/training/Pages/training-detail.aspx?itemid=65">http://www.nij.gov/training/Pages/training-detail.aspx?itemid=65</a> and Assignment 1b: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s1/DNA_Sample_Handling%201.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s1/DNA_Sample_Handling%201.pdf</a> <b>CLO 1</b>
2	09/02/16	Basics of Physical and Biological Evidence- Reading Butler CH 4 <b>Additional Reading</b> Assignment 2a: <a href="http://www.profiling.org/journal/vol1_no1/jbp_ed_january2000_1-1.html">http://www.profiling.org/journal/vol1_no1/jbp_ed_january2000_1-1.html</a> Assignment 2b: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/Laboratory%20Orientation%20and%20Testing%20of%20Body%20Fluids%20and%20Issues%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/Laboratory%20Orientation%20and%20Testing%20of%20Body%20Fluids%20and%20Issues%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> and Assignment 2c: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s1/S01-Crime%20Scene%20and%20DNA%20Basics%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts-20121205%202.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s1/S01-Crime%20Scene%20and%20DNA%20Basics%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts-20121205%202.pdf</a> Study for Quiz. <b>CLO 1 and 2</b>
3	09/09/16	Quiz 1 and Basics of Biological Evidence Screening and DNA Analysis- Butler CH 2 and 3 Assignment 3: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> <b>CLO 1 and 2</b>
4	09/16/16	Introduction to DNA and Methods: DNA Extraction Reading CH 5 <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> <b>CLO 3</b>
5	09/23/16	Introduction to DNA and Methods : DNA quantification – Reading CH 6 and Assignment 4: Readings to be posted. Lee, Buel and McCord. 2014.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines – all assignments due at 1200 noon, the next Firday of the following week by email to <a href="mailto:sblee999@gmail.com">sblee999@gmail.com</a>
		<b><i>CLO 3 and CLO 4</i></b>
6	09/30/16	DNA extraction and quantification continued: Forensic DNA Quantification review of Lee et al. Electrophoresis article. <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Extraction%20and%20Quantitation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> Study for Quiz 1 <b><i>CLO 1-4</i></b>
7	10/07/16	<b>Quiz 1</b> and Introduction to RFLP and PCR – Reading CH 7 and <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Amplification%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/DNA%20Amplification%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> <b><i>CLO 3 and CLO 4</i></b>
8	10/14/16	Introduction to PCR continued and STRs- Reading CH 8
9	10/21/16	STR separation and detection Reading CH 9 and Assignment 5: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/separation%20course.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/separation%20course.pdf</a> <b><i>CLO 4</i></b>
10	10/28/16	<b>Midterm: IN PERSON Place and Time TBD</b> <b><i>CLO 1-4</i></b>
11	11/04/16	STR genotyping and data analysis CH 10 and Assignment 6: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/STR%20Data%20Analysis%20and%20Interpretation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf">http://www.sjsu.edu/people/steven.lee/courses/c2/s2/STR%20Data%20Analysis%20and%20Interpretation%20for%20Forensic%20Analysts.pdf</a> <b><i>CLO 4 Study for Quiz</i></b> <i>Note no class 11/11/16 Veteran's day holiday</i>
12	11/18/16	<b>Quiz 2</b> and STR interpretation and forensic issues CH 14 and Assignment 7: <a href="http://www.cstl.nist.gov/strbase/pub_pres/2_STR_Artifacts.pdf">http://www.cstl.nist.gov/strbase/pub_pres/2_STR_Artifacts.pdf</a> <b><i>CLO 4</i></b> <i>Note no class 11/25/16 Thanksgiving Holiday)</i>
13	11/18/16	Statistical Interpretation: Evaluating the Strength of Forensic DNA Evidence Reading CH 11 Assignment 8: TBA <b><i>CLO 4</i></b>
14	12/02/16	DNA Databases, cold hits, CODIS and SWGDAM CH 12 and CH 15 Assignment 9: TBA Additional DNA loci and the Future of DNA analysis- Forensic DNA in Human Rights Investigations- Next Generation Sequencing – Assignment 10: <b>Study for Final CH 1-15 and all weblinks above</b> <b><i>CLO 4</i></b>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines – all assignments due at 1200 noon, the next Firday of the following week by email to <a href="mailto:sblee999@gmail.com">sblee999@gmail.com</a>
15	12/09/16	Last Class- <b><u>FINAL tentatively scheduled for 12/09/15 – SAVE to Date</u></b>

NOTE: Additional assignments may also be provided during the semester.

**Instructor:**

Professor Lee holds an a BS from SUNY Binghamton in Biology, MS from NYU and PhD from University of California, Berkeley in Molecular Biology. Lee holds several concurrent positions including consulting positions for several biotech companies, Visiting Scholar at UC Berkeley, and an adjunct professor appointment in Chemistry at Florida International University and in Biological Sciences at San Francisco State University. He was formerly the Director of R&D at CA Dept of Justice DNA Laboratory from 1994-2000 where he served as an expert witness in DNA, directed the development, validation and implementation of new technologies and, conducted DNA training courses. He is a full member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the California Association of Criminalists, a Fellow of the Criminalistics Division of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, , and is an American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors Laboratory Accreditation Board certified inspector. He also served on the FBI Technical Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods group from 1994-2000. He has taught courses in molecular biology at SFSU (1996-1998), Forensic genetics at UC Davis (1997), and most recently forensic DNA Typing of STRs at FIU (2003).