

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**FS 169 Forensic Science Senior Seminar**  
**CRN 49213, Fall 2016**

<b>Instructor</b>	Mary Juno
<b>Office Location</b>	MacQuarrie Hall 511
<b>Instructor Email</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.juno@sjsu.edu">mary.juno@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Course Website</b>	Course documents will be posted on Canvas <a href="https://sjsu.instructure.com/">https://sjsu.instructure.com/</a>
<b>Office Hours</b>	Drop in TH 1000-1300
<b>Class Days, Times, &amp; Location</b>	FRI 0700-0945, MacQuarrie 520
<b>Prerequisites</b>	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 semester.
<b>JS &amp; FS Library Liaison</b>	Silke Higgins <a href="mailto:silke.higgins@sjsu.edu">silke.higgins@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>FS Lib Guide</b>	<a href="http://libguides.sjsu.edu/content.php?pid=57768&amp;sid=2450175">http://libguides.sjsu.edu/content.php?pid=57768&amp;sid=2450175</a>

**Course Catalogue Description**

Identification, discussion, and analysis of selected problems in forensic science. A major research paper, presentation on a selected topic, and participation in 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 academic writing/speaking style, and appropriate citation style (APA).

**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.

**Required Texts/Readings**

Strom, K. J. & Hickman, K. J. (2014). *Forensic science and the administration of justice*. SAGE. ISBN-13: 978-1452276885

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

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

## Recommended

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

## Assignments

1. Components of research including research question, justification, thesis/hypothesis, annotated bibliography, literature review, abstract, and peer reviews. All assignments must be in APA format and include APA title page. All steps must be typed and turned in on Canvas and in hard copy (print). (20%)
2. Poster and oral presentation of research. (20%)
3. Final paper in APA format. (50%)
4. Exams and quizzes on various lecture topics and readings, both announced and unannounced. (10%)

## Grading Scale for All Assignments

A plus	97-100
A	94-96.9
A minus	90-93.9
B plus	87-89.9
B	84-86.9
B minus	80-83.9
C plus	77-79.9
C	74-76.9
C minus	70-73.9
D plus	67-69.9
D	64-66.9
D minus	60-63.9
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.

## Extra Credit

1. Attend an appointment or workshop at The Writing Center (126 Clark) before Nov 4 and supply proof of attendance.
2. Join a professional organization that is of interest to you (IAI, AAFS, ABC, CAC, etc. – there are *thousands*) and supply proof of membership before the end of the semester. A professional organization is one that holds conferences and/or produces a periodic journal. This is not the same thing as an internship, job, or student organization; it is a professional *membership*.

## Class Policies

All work must be turned in both on Canvas and in print. Assignments that are only turned in in one format will be considered late and marked down 25% per calendar day. 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.

Attendance and class participation is expected. It is essential that you come to class prepared so 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 use is not permitted during class. Students who use their phone in class will be asked to surrender it for the remainder of the class period. Laptops are permitted for note-taking only.

## **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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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. Contact information: [408.924.2910](tel:408.924.2910) Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>. The CASA Student Success Center also provides study space and laptops for checkout.

## **University Policies**

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Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

### **Important Dates This Semester**

<http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/2164/index.html>

Sept 6: Last Day to Drop Without a W

Sept 13: Last Day to Add a Course, Last Day to Request CR/NC

Nov 17: Last Day to Submit Late Drop/Withdrawal Request <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/forms/>

Dec 9: Last day of Instruction (for this class)

## **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 teaches JS and FS courses, and advises FS majors and minors. Her office is 511 MacQuarrie Hall.

## FS 169 Forensic Science Senior Seminar, Fall 2016 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change.

Week	Date	In-Class Topics	Assignments & Readings Due Next Week
1	8/26	Introductions, course overview ~ Research paper structure/organization Scientific method in research, proof/support/evidence/anecdotes, errors, primary/secondary research, empirical data, feasibility & importance, methods, motives/goals Brainstorm topics for research	Read Intro and Ch 1-3 in Strom & Hickman, scan book for topic ideas  Brush up on APA
2	9/2	Strom & Hickman 1-3 APA Quiz: What do you know? Step 1 organization	Read Ch 4-6 in Strom & Hickman Complete Step 1 Read DNA articles on Canvas under "Readings"
3	9/9	Strom & Hickman 4-6 STEP 1 DUE	Read Ch 7-9 in Strom & Hickman Complete Step 2
4	9/16	Strom & Hickman 7-9 STEP 2 DUE, In class peer review How to write an annotated bibliography	Read Ch 10-12 in Strom & Hickman Library: Begin search for articles Read GWS Ch 3
5	9/23	No class meeting: Gather articles and work on annotated bibliography	Read Ch 13-14 in Strom & Hickman Read GWS Ch 5 Refine Step 2 as needed, begin Step 3 Library: Locate and read articles
6	9/30	Grammar, academic and scientific writing Strom & Hickman 10-14	Complete Step 3: Annotated Bibliography
7	10/7	STEP 3 DUE Annotated bibliography In class peer review	Study for Midterm Work on Step 4
8	10/14	Midterm: Strom & Hickman, DNA articles	Complete Step 4: Lit Review & Introduction
9	10/21	STEP 4 DUE Literature review In class peer review	
10	10/28	Individual appointments	Read GWS Ch 1
11	11/4	Poster presentation basics How to write an abstract DUE: Proof of attendance at WC	Complete Step 5: Abstract Complete Poster
12	11/11	Veteran's Day ~ No Class	GWS Ch 2, Complete Step 6: Poster
13	11/18	STEPS 5 & 6 DUE Poster & Oral Presentations	Make final edits to poster
14	11/25	Thanksgiving Break ~ No Class	Work on final paper
15	12/2	Poster & Oral Presentations	Make final edits to poster and paper
16	12/9	Getting a Job: Letters/Resumes/Interviews DUE: Final paper	See Canvas for information on resumes and interviews