

San José State University
CASA/Justice Studies Department
JS-171, Human Rights and Justice, Section 81, Fall Semester, 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Elizabeth Tejada
Office Location:	This course will occur entirely via Canvas. Check module link.
Email:	elizabeth.tejada@sjsu.edu (all contacts for this course should occur via Canvas)
Office Hours:	This is an online course. Feel free to contact me <u>via</u> Canvas (not email) with any questions or to discuss. All communications to me via Canvas generally are responded to within 24 hours.
Class Days/Time:	Monday and Wednesday 1:30 – 2:45pm
Classroom:	Clark Building, Room 324
Prerequisites:	Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C-not accepted), completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	Area V: Culture, Civilization, and Global Understanding

Course Description

Interdisciplinary exploration of human rights instruments, institutions, and notable human rights campaigns. The historical development of human rights and contemporary threats to the realization of fundamental dignity for humans and non-humans will also be explored.

This course surveys the cultural, political, and legal stature of indigenous peoples of the Americas. The course examines the indigenous experience both within the U.S. borders and as it relates to the international context.

Course Goals

“The United States of America is the greatest nation on earth, or so it is said. This expression reflects homage to the visionary founders and the democratic innovation they implanted, a fundamental faith in the country’s political and economic system, and celebration of a common ethos of liberty and equality that is understood to mark American identity.” [Walter R. Echo-Hawk, *In the Light of Justice*, vii]

Yet, “the pattern of injustices inflicted upon Native Americans is well documented and little controverted in any serious way.” [Id.] “While most acutely felt by the indigenous peoples of the country, these wounds are also afflictions on the country as a whole.” [Id.]

This course helps us understand “why justice requires confronting the combined injustices of the past and present” [Id. at viii] As Echo-Hawk does, we have this discussion about achieving reconciliation within the context of indigenous peoples, focusing on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We do this through an exploration of an indigenous peoples’ history and the context of enslavement of a people and their land. Issues will be explored internationally – e.g., the Philippines, Mexico, Canada, South America, and the Caribbean islands.

Finally, we look critically at the bias and cultural injustices that can underlie policies to stifle progress. And we will discover the successes of those that persevere to achieve human rights and justice.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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

1. GELO 1: Compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the U.S. *This learning objective will be assessed through in-class exercises and discussion, the course discussions, assignments/quizzes, mid-term, and final exam;*
2. GELO 2: Identify the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the U.S. and how they have influenced American culture. *This learning objective will be assessed through in-class exercises and discussion, the course discussions, assignments/quizzes, mid-term, and final exam;*
3. GELO 3: Explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressures. *This learning objective will be assessed through in-class exercises and discussion, the course discussions, assignments/quizzes, mid-term, and final exam;*

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. CLO 1 - Read, write, and contribute to assignment and class discussion at a skilled and capable level.
2. CLO 2 - Recognize and access human rights instruments defining “human rights” according to international law (such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) via online and library resources.
3. CLO 3 - Recognize and access the reports of central oversight agencies, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, that report on human rights abuses to the United Nations and global populace via online and library resources.
4. CLO 4 - Compare and contrast how “rights” and “dignity” have been defined by and for various cultures throughout the world.
5. CLO 5 - Apply a human rights discourse to analyze social problems, policies, and practices in the U.S.
6. CLO6- Compare and contrast “universal” and “relativist” approaches to human rights. This will require students to recognize the unique nuances of “Western,” “non-Western,” and indigenous concepts of fundamental right and dignity. This also requires students to identify the historical context of human rights and human rights concepts as they have developed.
7. CLO8- Apply a human rights discourse to analyze social problems, policies, and practices in the US—particularly in the SF Bay Area.

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.

Grading Information for GE/100W

- **For upper division GE courses (V):**

Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), and completion of Core General Education are prerequisite to all SJSU Studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 in GE Areas R, S, & V shall be required of all students.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

In the Light of Justice: The Rise of Human Rights in Native America and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, July 1, 2013, by Walter R. Echo-Hawk, ISBN 978-1555916633

The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America, April 18, 2017, by Andrés Reséndez, ISBN 9780544947108

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States, August 11, 2015, by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. ISBN 9780807000403.

Time Bomb: Canada and the First Nations, by Douglas L. Bland, Paperback, ISBN 978-1-45972-787-8

Other Readings

If there are other readings or materials, it will be posted on either: (a) posted on Canvas and/or (b) a hyperlink link will be given on Canvas to where it can be accessed. Any difficulty accessing the reading must be reported to me before the reading deadline (the corresponding assignment and/or class discussion).

Course Format

Online Courses

This is an online class.

You will need a computer and reliable internet connectivity to run Canvas and its programs. Since the assignments and exams are timed, you will need to make sure your internet connectivity is reliable before beginning it.

Updates and supplementary course materials - such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, readings, etc. - will frequently be posted for the course. The materials can be found on [Canvas website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas as well as the email address associated with your [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) account at <http://my.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates.

All messages, questions, and discussions relating to this course must be sent to me through Canvas. All class assignments must be submitted to me in Canvas. Unless I agreed before the deadline to accept your paper by some other method (i.e., hardcopy, direct email, etc.), the assignment will not be considered submitted until it is received through Canvas.

Also since assignments, quizzes, and/or exams might require that the submission be in word-processing software (.doc or .docx), and software and hardware requirements that meet Canvas platform needs. You will also need to have the related software and hardware requirements to access and download readings from the SJSU, library, and related websites, including but not limited to Adobe Acrobat Reader or equivalent.

Technical difficulties are the student's responsibility (e.g. personal computer glitches, poor internet connection, software compatibility, etc) unless they are beyond the student's control (CANVAS outage, CANVAS glitch, etc). In the case that a technical difficulty occurs beyond the student's control, the student must 1) take a screen shot to document the difficulty 2) seek the help of the help desk and 3) inform the instructor of the issue asap. Seek me out by email or for office hour help to improve your performance in class.

See [University Policy F13-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details.

All Communications, Assignments/Quizzes, and Exams Through Canvas

All communication with me must be sent through Canvas (of course, other than verbal discussion). An assignment/quiz and exam will not be considered “submitted” unless and until it is submitted through Canvas.

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.

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Class Participation (10%)

Students will be required to post original comments in response to class topics posted by me in the Discussions component of Canvas. Chosen topics will directly relate to the readings and lecture for the period that precedes it. A set time frame will be in place for posting of comments; students will only be able to post during said time frames. Full credit (i.e., points) for each posted chapter topic will require (1) substantive post and (1) response to a classmate. Points for class participation will be awarded pursuant to the quantity and quality of the student’s contribution to the Discussion Topics. See course schedule for topic posting dates, and check canvas.

You are required to do the reading by its deadline, actively listen to all lecture, think critically regarding the course issues, and participate in every class discussion. See [University Attendance and Participation policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)

In order to participate in an online course, one must: (1) regularly access the Canvas page for the course; (2) pay close attention to the module prerequisites (i.e., what must be accomplished before accessing the next module) and module completion requirements; (3) be very mindful of due dates and times for all time-restricted components of the course; and (4) carefully read the syllabus, fully read all announcements made by the instructor via Canvas, read all directions for course components. Note, the amount of points awarded is at my sole discretion.

2. Assignment/Quizzes (30%)

Reading is the cornerstone of advanced learning. To encourage students to read and keep up with the course, there will be 5 short quizzes/assignments. Each will correspond to the reading and lecture that precedes the period since the last quiz/assignment. Therefore, assigned reading should be completed in a timely manner by the dates indicated on the course schedule (at the end of this syllabus). The quiz/assignment will be opened on Canvas on Wednesday, 3:00pm and will be available until the Thursday, 11:59pm on the dates provided in the schedule below.

Plenty of time is given to complete the assignment/quizzes on time. So they are all due on-time within the period specified for each. **Submission of a late assignment will not be accepted for credit.** As all assignments must be submitted to pass the course, late assignments without a legitimate reason will still be accepted; however, no credit (i.e., points) will be assigned.

Quiz time limits are intended to prevent students from looking up answers in the book and notes while taking the quiz. This is because the quizzes are not perfunctory; they are intended to encourage students to read all material at a proper pace. Therefore, read all book and PowerPoint material before starting each quiz.

The assignment/quizzes will be designed to test and encourage basic knowledge acquisition, including fundamental ideas, key terms, basic historical events, and important concepts. Poor performance on a quiz is an indicator that more studying is needed for the topic(s) the assignment/quiz covered.

3. Mid-term (30%)

The exam will test your comprehension of the reading and corresponding lecture and class discussion. The assignment/quizzes are intended to measure that the student has completed the reading assignment from start to finish, thought critically about the concepts, and can apply it the other course topics. Exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer, matching, and/or true/false questions. The exam is cumulative, but it will emphasize the most recent course material.

The exam will be opened on Canvas on Wednesday 11/08, 3:00pm and will be available until the Sunday 11/12, 11:59pm. The parameters of the exam will be given including, what if any materials can be referred to.

4. Final Exam (30%)

The exam will test your comprehension of the reading and corresponding lecture and class discussion. The assignment/quizzes are intended to measure that the student has completed the reading assignment from start to finish, thought critically about the concepts, and can apply it the other course topics. Exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer, matching, and/or true/false questions. The exam is cumulative, but it will emphasize the most recent course material.

The exam will be opened on Canvas on Wednesday 12/10, 3:00pm and will be available until the Monday 12/18, 11:59pm. The parameters of the exam will be given including, what if any materials can be referred to.

Credit Hour Requirement

SJSU classes are designed such that 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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Learning in this course is accomplished primarily through reading (1) the textbook and (2) PowerPoint presentations, and by writing (1) discussion posts and (2) quizzes and/or assignments.

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

- **Final Grade**

The mid-term and final exam will first, be scored on a curve, then converted to the below weighted value. The final course grade will be based on the final weighted score out of 100 percent.

Grades are based on the following weights:

Participation (discussion)	10 percent
Quiz/Assignments (five)	30 percent (total)
Mid-Term Exam (true/false, multi-choice, and/or short answer)	30 percent
<u>Final Exam (true/false, multi-choice, and/or short answer)</u>	<u>30 percent</u>
Total	100 percent

- **Grading Scale**

The grading scale is based on the following percentage:

A+ 100 – 97	A 96 – 91	A- 90 – 89
B+ 88 – 87	B 86 – 81	B- 80 – 79
C+ 78 – 77	C 76 – 71	C- 70 – 69
D+ 68 – 67	D 66 – 61	D- 60 – 59
F 58 or below		

- **Late Assignment** - Late assignment submissions will not be accepted without a documented, verifiable, and valid reason.
- **Ethical Conduct** - Your commitment to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 (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 is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

I expect students to behave in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. A few students get into trouble because they are unaware of what constitutes academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, violating course rules, and facilitating academic dishonesty. Academic misconduct could result in failure for an assignment (typically a grade of zero), or for the course, or even in expulsion from the university. Students are also expected to respect the right of their fellow students to learn. In all course activities, students must maintain a respectful demeanor toward fellow students regardless of personal assessments of them. Failure to act according to the standards set forth here will have consequences. For example, students may be dismissed from the course, and a complaint made to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development

Academic Liaison Librarian

Higgins, Silke, Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu; (408) 808-2118; <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>
You are strongly encouraged to contact Ms. Higgins for individual help with your research.

Adding and Droppings:

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop 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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Disabilities

I am strongly committed to equal access to education. Any student who has a specific disability that needs academic accommodations should notify me as soon as possible. I will work to ensure a positive learning experience. Please inform me of needed accommodations on the first day of class, or as soon as possible after qualifying for accommodations. Presidential Directive 97-03 (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 (AEC) (at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>) to establish a record of their disability.

University Policies

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' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

CASA Student Success Center

The Student Success Center in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA), on the 5th floor of MacQuarrie Hall, provides advising for undergraduate students majoring in or wanting to major in programs offered in CASA. All CASA students and students who would like to be in CASA are invited to stop by the Center for general education (GE) 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 (MH) 5331. 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.