

San José State University
College of Applied Sciences and Arts/Justice Studies
JS100W, Writing Workshop, Section 80, Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Michael Vallerga, M.A.
Office Location:	TBD / Online
Telephone:	(408) 924-2958
Email:	michael.vallerga@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Days/Time:	Online
Classroom:	CANVAS https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1240716
Prerequisites:	Prerequisite: A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of C- or better); Completion of core GE, satisfaction of Writing Skills Test and upper division standing.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE Area: Z

Course Format

This course adopts an online classroom format. It is required that students have a reliable internet connection capable of viewing youtube videos and uploading/downloading documents. Students must also install Microsoft Office (or at least Microsoft Word), available in a free version to SJSU students. It is also expected that students will be using a computer to that end.

Instructor's Note on Communication

Office hours will be conducted by appointment through Blackboard Collaborate sessions via CANVAS. As you know, a university degree is a significant undertaking and requires a high level of commitment, time management, organization, and initiative. Thus, it is in your best interest to stay on top of the readings and keep in touch with the instructor. The best way to keep in touch is email.

Course Description:

Development of advanced communication skills, both written and oral. Emphasis on writing formats used by criminal justice professionals. A scholarly paper, written in APA format and informed by research, will be required.

Allowed Declared Major: Justice Studies. Note: Must be passed with C or better to satisfy the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment requirement (GWAR).

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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

- GELO 1: Produce discipline-specific written work that demonstrates upper-division proficiency in: 1) language use, 2) grammar, and 3) clarity of expression;
- GELO 2: Explain, analyze, develop, and criticize ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse;
- GELO 3: Organize and develop essays and documents for both professional and general audiences;
- GELO 4: Organize and develop essays and documents according to appropriate editorial and citation standards;
- GELO 5: Locate, organize, and synthesize information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose, and to communicate that purpose in writing.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

An EasyGuide to APA Style (EasyGuide Series) 3rd Edition by Beth M. Schwartz, Ronald Eric Landrum, Regan A. R. Gurung ISBN-10: 1483383237

Library Liaison for Justice Studies

Silke Higgins, silke.higgins@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2118, Justice Studies Library Guide – URL: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Practice Assignments (16 Points – 8 at 2 points each)

This course will cover specific content about the nature of social science writing in the American Psychological Association style as well as techniques useful for social scientific writing. There will be several practice assignments (mostly in the form of credit/no credit quizzes) that reinforce these.

Homework (18 Points – 6 at 3 points each)

As new ways to think about writing for the social sciences are covered, there will also be opportunities to generate your own writing to further hone these skills. This will allow for detailed feedback on assignments with somewhat lower stakes. This will also include assignments like doing an academic literature search.

Discussion and Peer Review (18 Points – 9 at 2 points each)

Throughout this course, students will be encountering new content from academic sources and need to digest them and their implications before writing about them. Because academic work does not exist in a vacuum, when there is new content or writing styles that bear discussion, instructor will assign you to discuss them with your peers. This will always include one new post in the discussion thread and two responses to others' posts. Eventually this will take the form of formal peer-review assignments.

Article Breakdowns (20 Points – 5 at 4 points each)

A critical piece of learning how to write for the social sciences in APA style is the treatment of peer-reviewed articles. Instructor will be providing four or five for each of four topic areas to facilitate learning about how to read peer-reviewed articles and write about them.

Rough Draft of Review Paper (5 Points)

Toward the end of the course students will be asked to put together a full draft of a literature review paper. This is so that first your peers and then then instructor can give detailed feedback. This will be graded on completeness.

Final Paper (23 Points)

This is the final paper and the culmination of all the skills students develop over this course. The entire purpose of this course is to be able to write an academic paper of this quality. It will be graded on all aspects of APA style, grammar, spelling, content, flow, coherence, the whole thing. A rough rubric and several example papers will be provided.

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 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.”

Grading Information

The course grade is based on the final score out of 100 possible points. It is possible for everyone to earn an A. **Missing any deadline without submitting a valid excuse may result in a grade of zero for the item.**

Grades are based on:

Practice Assignments	16 points
Homework	18 points
Discussion and Peer Review	18 points
Article Breakdowns	20 points
Rough Draft	5 points
<u>Final Review Paper</u>	<u>23 points</u>
Total	100 points

The grading scale is:

97 – 100 A+
92 – 96 A
89 – 91 A-
87 – 88 B+
82 – 86 B
79 – 81 B-
77 – 78 C+
72 – 76 C
69 – 71 C-
67 – 68 D+
62 – 66 D
59 – 61 D-
58 and below F

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/>”

JS 100W: Writing Workshop, Spring 2018 - Course Schedule

*This schedule is subject to change with fair notice sent via Canvas. Always use the date in the Canvas Assignment over the dates here. For maximum flexibility for students, the first three Parts of the course have a single due date, but **completion following the below schedule is strongly encouraged.***

Classroom Protocol

Instructor's Note on Communication:

As you know, a university degree is a significant undertaking and requires a high level of commitment, time management, organization, and initiative. Thus, it is in your best interest to stay on top of the lectures and readings and keep in touch with the instructor. The best way to keep in touch is through email. Emails will be mostly only responded to during business hours (Monday through Friday only).

Part 1 - Introduction and Mechanics of Writing

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/20	Topic: Introduction Assignments: Practice Assignment 1; Discussion 1
2	8/27	Topic: Basic Writing Primer Assignments: Practice Assignment 2; Homework 1 Read: Chapters 3, 4, and 6
3	9/3	Topic: Social Science Articles Assignments: Practice Assignment 3; Homework 2; Discussion 2
4	9/10	Topic: Citing a Sources Assignments: Practice Assignment 4 Read: Chapters 8 and 12
		<u>All Part 1 Assignments Due 9/17 at midnight</u>

Part 2 – The Beginnings of Academic Writing

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	9/17	Topic: Writing About a Social Science Paper Assignments: Article Breakdown 1; Discussion 3 Read: Chapter 5
6	9/24	Topic: APA Style Formatting Assignments: Practice Assignment 5; Homework 3 Read: Chapter 14 and optionally Chapter 16
7	10/1	Topic: Writing About a Topic or Idea Assignments: Article Breakdown 2; Discussion 4
8	10/8	Topic: Developing a Thesis Assignments: Article Breakdown 3; Discussion 5
9	10/15	Topic: Other Forms of Writing Assignments: Practice Assignment 6; Homework 4
		<u>All Part 2 Assignments Due 10/22 at midnight</u>

Part 3 – Complexities and Nuances of Writing for the Social Sciences

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	10/22	Topic: Arguments in Social Science Writing Assignments: Homework 5
11	10/29	Topic: Introductions Assignments: Practice Assignment 7; Discussion 6 Read: Chapters 7
12	11/5	Topic: Conclusions Assignments: Article Breakdown 4; Discussion 7 Read: Chapter 11
13	11/12	Topic: Adding More Complexity Assignments: Article Breakdown 5
		<u>All Part 3 Assignments Due 11/19 at midnight</u>

Part 4 – Writing the Final Review Paper

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	11/19	Topic: Writing a Review Paper Assignments: Practice Assignment 8
15	11/26	Topic: Work on your rough draft Assignments: Rough Draft
16	12/3	Topic: Peer Reviews Assignments: Discussion 8 Read: Chapter 20
Final Exam	12/18	Online, 11:59 PM - Final Review Paper Due; Discussion 9
		<u>All Part 4 Assignments Have Their Own Due Dates</u>