

San José State University
CoSS/Justice Studies Department
FS 171 Forensic Criminology, CRN 29884, SPRING 2021

Instructor:	Mary Juno
Office Location:	Health Building 127
Email:	mary.juno@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wednesdays, 10:00am-12:00pm on Zoom, drop-in https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/93007422140
Class Days/Time:	Feb 2, 2021 – May 11, Tuesdays 1200-1430, on Zoom
Prerequisites:	100W
Library Liaison:	Nyle Monday nyle.monday@sjsu.edu
FS/JS Lib Guide:	http://libguides.sjsu.edu/c.php?g=230074&p=1526987

Course Description

This course will examine the strengths and limitations of criminal profiling in investigations, its concepts and methodologies, history, and psychological and scientific underpinnings. Practical application of theory and principles to actual cases will stress students' abilities to reason logically, make connections between established facts, and draw evidence-based inferences about offenders.

Course Format

The mode of instruction for this course is synchronous online. This means that we will meet at the scheduled class time (Tuesdays 12:00pm-2:30pm) in an online classroom via Zoom. Attendance is required.

Zoom Class Link:

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/87015740599?pwd=TE5nRmRFaXVLaFNPU241aW0rNFh3Zz09>

Password: FS171

Technology Requirements

Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet) with a camera and built-in microphone. SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students (<https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php>). Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during class. If students are unable to have reliable Wi-Fi, they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible to determine an alternative. See Learn Anywhere website for current Wi-Fi options on campus. All assignments **must** be submitted via Canvas.

Use of Camera in Class

You are encouraged (not required) to turn on your camera during class discussion/lecture. Either way, you are required to participate in class discussions and group projects. Feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Zoom Classroom Etiquette

- **Mute Your Microphone:** To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- **Be Mindful of Background Noise:** Find a quiet place to “attend” class, to the greatest extent possible.
 - Avoid video setups where people may be walking behind you, people talking/making noise, etc.
 - Avoid activities that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers, listening to music in the background, etc.
- **Position Your Camera Properly:** Be sure your webcam is in a stable position and focused at eye level.
- **Limit Your Distractions/Avoid Multitasking:** You can make it easier to focus in class by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless of course you are using it to access Zoom class).
- **Use Appropriate Virtual Backgrounds:** If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.

Recording Zoom Classes

This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) may be recorded for instructional or educational purposes. The recordings will only be shared with students enrolled in the class through Canvas. The recordings will be deleted at the end of the semester. If, however, you would prefer to remain anonymous during these recordings, then please speak with the instructor about possible accommodations (e.g., temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom session, including student name and picture, prior to recording).

Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission

Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. This university policy (S12-7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

Canvas Course Page and E-mail

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://one.sjsu.edu) on [Spartan App Portal](http://one.sjsu.edu) <http://one.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help using Canvas Resource page at http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources.

Some course materials will be posted in Adobe PDF format; if you choose to download them, you will need Adobe Reader to view the documents. There is no cost to download Adobe Reader (<http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/adobe/students/index.html>).

Tips for Success in an Online Class

- If you are new to Canvas, please visit the Canvas Guide for Students: https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources/index.html
- Download the Canvas mobile app to your smartphone so that you will have access to the course if you are away from a computer
- Login frequently so that you do not miss important announcements and assignment deadlines, and set reminders on your phone
- Bookmark frequently visited course sites and resources so that you can revisit them to study for tests
- Get in contact with your groupmates early in the semester

Course Learning Objectives

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

1. Explain historical and modern concepts, methods, and theories of criminal profiling.
2. Examine sources of error and misconception regarding criminal profiling.
3. Analyze crime scenes using evidence-based logic and scientific principles to generate reliable inferences about victims and offenders.

Course Materials

Required: Turvey, B. (2012). *Criminal profiling: An introduction to behavioral evidence analysis, 4th ed.* Elsevier.

Recommended: Kitaeff, J. (2011). *Forensic psychology.* Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. ISBN: 978-0-13-235291-8.

For your interest: Ressler, R., Burgess, A. & Douglas, J. (1988). *Sexual homicide: Patterns and motives.*

For your interest: Douglas, J., Burgess, A.W., Burgess, A.G., Ressler, R. [Crime classification manual, 2nd ed.](#) Jossy-Bass/Wiley.

Assignment Groups and Weights

30% Exams/Quizzes (including pop quizzes): 2 midterms, 1 final exam

20% Group work: Case Analysis and Presentations

20% Media Analysis: Films, Podcasts, and Articles

20% Discussion Board

10% Chapter Review Questions

All assignments are graded based on adherence to directions, thoroughness, thoughtfulness/effort, clarity, logic, accuracy, and writing mechanics.

Final Grade Scale

Grade	Percentage
<i>A plus</i>	98 to 100%
<i>A</i>	93 to 97.99%
<i>A minus</i>	90 to 92.99%
<i>B plus</i>	88 to 89.99 %
<i>B</i>	83 to 87.99%
<i>B minus</i>	80 to 82.99%
<i>C plus</i>	78 to 79.99%
<i>C</i>	73 to 77.99%
<i>C minus</i>	70 to 72.99%
<i>D plus</i>	68 to 69.99%
<i>D</i>	63 to 67.99%
<i>D minus</i>	60 to 62.99%

Grading Policies

- Plagiarized work will result in a 0 grade on the assignment and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. See below for more information on academic integrity.
- Late work may be submitted for reduced credit **within 2 weeks of the original due date**, -10% for each week that it is late. Late work goes to the *bottom* of the grading pile and may not be evaluated until the end of the semester.
- Make-ups for exams and quizzes will generally not be permitted. Please set reminders so that you do not miss them.
- Please read and follow the directions of each assignment. Students will not be permitted to resubmit work if directions were not followed the first time.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to pursue their studies with honesty and integrity. When students have a person other than themselves take a test or complete an assignment; cut and paste writing from a source into their paper without giving proper credit; accept, buy, or copy the work of another; share or sell their own work; lie, cheat, or otherwise misrepresent their work product, they have committed the serious offense of *academic dishonesty*. If you cheat, copy, or misrepresent your work in this class in any way, including citation “errors,” you will receive a 0 on the assignment and the incident will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. You are expected, in all assignments, to do your own thinking and writing, turn in your best original work, and cite all sources you consult. No exceptions.

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/>

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 for more information, or to get an application for membership.

Themis: Research Journal of Justice Studies and Forensic Science

Themis is a student-run journal that publishes original SJSU student papers on a wide range of justice- and forensic science-related topics. Themis runs as a 3-unit class every spring, publishing one volume annually in May in hardcopy and is hosted [online at Scholarworks](#). Researchers the world over have downloaded and cited our students. For more information, please see: <https://www.sjsu.edu/justicestudies/our-department/publications/themis/index.html> Contact mary.juno@sjsu.edu to join Themis (JS 180-04) as an associate editor, and/or to submit an original paper for consideration in our next volume (deadline January 31).

About the Instructor

Juno earned an MSc in Forensic Science from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, and a 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. She coordinates the Forensic Science Minor and teaches FS and JS courses at SJSU. She also teaches at CCSF and SFSU.

How to Contact Me

- Email: mary.juno@sjsu or Canvas Inbox. I will respond within 48 hours, M-F. I do not check email after 5:00pm, or on weekends or holidays.
- Post a question on the Q&A Board (for questions about the course material)
- Zoom Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-12 (link on Canvas)

FS 171 Forensic Criminology Spring 2021 Course Schedule

*The instructor reserves the right to alter this schedule at any time during the semester. Logging into Canvas multiple times a week will ensure that you are abreast of any changes that are made.

Week	Date	In-Class Topics	Due @ 12:00 pm	Readings, Assignments
1	2/2	Course overview, form groups, history of criminal profiling/famous cases/nomothetic and idiographic methods		Preface to 3 rd & 4 th editions, Chapters 1,2,3 Check Canvas Discussion Board
2	2/9	Scientific method, critical thinking, principles of logic, logical fallacies, methods of profiling Forensic psychology	1,2,3	Chapters 4,5,6 Check Canvas Discussion Board http://www.tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations
3	2/16	Competency and sanity (in-class group project)	4,5,6	Chapters 7&10 Read TA pp. 585-598 Check Canvas Discussion Board
4	2/23	Behavioral evidence and crime scene analysis Types of murderers <i>Unabomber</i> (in-class group project)	7&10	Check Canvas Discussion Board
5	3/2	Victimology False reports & confessions (in-class group project)		Chapters 11, 12, 13 Check Canvas Discussion Board Study for Exam
		MIDTERM EXAM Friday 3/5		
6	3/9	Motive, intent, MO, signature, BMT, types of force, criminal skill Psychopathy, sociopathy, psychosis, sadism Psychopathy test	11,12,13	Chapters 14, 17, 18 Check Canvas Discussion Board
7	3/16	Crime scene reconstruction, evidence dynamics, methods of approach & attack, planning, precautionary acts, crime scene characteristics, CMF	14,17,18	Chapters 19, 20, 21, 22 Check Canvas Discussion Board
8	3/23	<i>Silence of the Lambs</i> (in-class group project)	19,20, 21,22	Check Canvas Discussion Board Study for Exam
9	3/30	SPRING BREAK		
		MIDTERM EXAM Monday 4/5		
10	4/6	McStay, Bishop, Collins cases (in-class group project)	20,21,22	Check Canvas Discussion Board
11	4/13	Cox, Rasmussen cases Unsolved Cases (in-class group project)		Check Canvas Discussion Board Complete Profile #1 Read Zodiac docs
12	4/20	Profiling Zodiac	Profile #1	Chapters 24 & 25 Check Canvas Discussion Board
13	4/27	<i>Red Dragon</i> (in-class group project)	24 & 25	Check Canvas Discussion Board Complete Profile #2
14	5/4	Profile 2 Presentations	Profile #2	Check Canvas Discussion Board
15	5/11	Last class, wrap up, exam review		
		FINAL EXAM		

Important university dates this semester <https://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/Spring-2021.php>