

San José State University
CoSS/Justice Studies
JS 121, Media and Justice, 03, Spring, 2022

Course Information!

Instructor: Kevin Lynch
Office Location: Online
Telephone: 510 798-5189 (telephone number)
Email: kevin.lynch@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, Noon to 1.
<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/88093256722>
Class Days/Time: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30-11:45
Classroom: Online, Sweeney Hall 434 after 2/14

Course Description This course is an interdisciplinary and comparative media examination of justice concepts and controversies, including forms of violence, human rights, undocumented persons, the state's role in promoting criminalization and social inequality, and the need for social justice and media reform. Students will engage in critical analysis of all different types of media: movies, documentaries, TV, TV news, social media, newspapers, op-ed pieces and commercials. Note: A grade of "C" or better is required for Justice Studies majors

Course Format

Online for the first three weeks, then in person (hopefully).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO1: Critically analyze how the media contributes to structural inequality by helping to create or maintain categories of social difference that impact people psychologically, physiologically, socially and culturally.

CLO2: Understand how learning is best pursued in a college environment and throughout your life through the study of media and justice

CLO3: Challenge assumptions on the nature of social inequality and stratification particularly in regard to media stereotypes and social phobias toward people who are marginalized and disenfranchised by society.

CLO4: Collaborate with other students through class discussions and presentations.

CLO5: Read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

Required Texts/Readings Required Textbook: Robinson, M. B. (2018). *Media Coverage of Crime and Criminal Justice*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, LLC. (ISBN: 9781531006013)

Library liaison: For help with library resources and library research (including the use of databases and online research materials—such as journal search engines), students are strongly encouraged to contact the Justice Studies Library Liaison Nyle Monday, MLIS, Academic Liaison Librarian 4th Floor, King Library / Email: Nyle [Monday@sjsu.edu](mailto:NyleMonday@sjsu.edu)

Requirements and Assignments:

1. Summarize class lectures and presentations every week.
2. Group analysis of different types of media in their coverage of crime and law and law enforcement locally and nationally.
3. Individual paideia presentation as it pertains to the concepts of paideia – truth, justice, equality, empathy, suffering, and courage and media and justice.
4. Quizzes on material
5. Written assignments on readings, films, podcasts, guest speakers.
6. Discern how the mass media works, who it works for, and how to best analyze media strategies.
7. Final will be a presentation or paper on media review of a major event involving crime, law, law enforcement.

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 three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Grading Information

For written assignments:

1. Use proper grammar and spelling. Make sure to edit at least once and use spell check. Obvious misspelling will result in missed points.
2. Please put answers in your words. No cut and paste!
3. Make sure your answers come from the reading and not from Google.
4. In your answers, make sure you prove to me that you have **DONE THE READING**.
5. Make sure to send a word doc or pdf for ALL assignments. **Anything else will result in no points.**
6. Please do not submit assignments as big blocks of text! Have paragraphs!
7. **Do not have the same answers to your assignment questions! That is cheating and we will result in no credit for the assignment and expulsion from the class!**

San Jose State is gaining in its reputation as an academic institution. Your graduation from this school and major continues to look more impressive on a resume. This class should add to that reputation and academic rigor. Consequently, showing up on time, completing assignments on time, and stretching your mind are fundamental requirements. Your effort will not only enhance your own academic and professional journey, but your earnestness also adds to the University as a whole.

Make sure to get class notes from someone else in class if you are absent. I will NOT provide you with notes if you are absent.

More Grading Information

A student's final grade is based on the completion of group assignments and activities, in-class discussion and presentation, and online activities. The evaluation shall consist of Canvas assignments, creative project or final, class presentation, midterm exam, final exam, and participation in class. Examinations consist of multiple-choice questions derived from the reading assignments, group discussions, and lectures.

Determination of Grades

- Participation in class discussions
- Effort, insights, and command of material during written and oral exercises.
- Clear, concise writing with few or no grammatical or spelling errors in written assignments.
- No points will be rewarded for missed presentations or assignments without a documented reason.

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>		<i>96 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>		<i>93 to 95%</i>
<i>A minus</i>		<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>		<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>		<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>		<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>		<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>		<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>		<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>		<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>		<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>		<i>60 to 62%</i>

If you or a friend needs emotional support, please visit SJSU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) www.sjsu.edu/counseling (Links to an external site.) service. Phone: (408) 924-5910. Location: Student Wellness Center, Room 300. Additional confidential services include Next Door: (408) 279-2962, www.nextdoor.org (Links to an external site.), 234 E. Gish Road, Suite 200, San José CA 95112; YWCA Silicon Valley: 24 Hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Support Hotline, (408) 2954011, www.ywca-sv.org (Links to an external site.), 375 S. Third Street, San José, CA 95112

Classroom etiquette: No electronic device use is allowed. Please take notes on paper, which has proven to increase retention of material. Use of cell phones or other devices will result in a reduction of your grade. Please tell friends and family that you will be unavailable via text or call during class time. Laptops and phones can be used during group work at specified times.

Zoom

You are highly encouraged to turn on your camera during class. Seeing your face helps me to get to know you and is essential for building a classroom community. Your camera is also an accountability tool that can help you from becoming distracted during class. I understand that the privacy of your home life and access to a room for privacy should not be a barrier to your success in this class. Nevertheless, you are required to participate in

class discussions, regardless of whether you choose to use your camera. 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 and Distractions: 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 paper, listening to music, 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 on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless you are using it to access Zoom).
- 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.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> (Links to an external site.)”

- Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf> (Links to an external site.), requires students to obtain the instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus: “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s written/emailed permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.
- Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share, or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

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 identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional, and civic lives more effectively. 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.

SJSU Writing Center: The SJSU Writing Center is in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website

at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter> (Links to an external site.). For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Facebook.

E-mail Policy

Feel free to e-mail the instructor at any time (I check often); however, please adhere to the e-mail guidelines below:

Please include in the “subject line” the course number, your name, and a specific description of your inquiry or comment (e.g., JS152, Your Name, and subject). The instructor **will not** respond to “**no subject**” e-mails, or any e-mail where the student is not identified in either the subject line or body of the e-mail.

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Course Schedule

Week/Lesson /Module (Delete if not applicable)	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)	Learning Outcomes (Delete if not applicable)
Week I	1/27	Introduction	
Week 2	2/1	Fraire Chapter 1, lecture discussion, group work explained	
Week 3	2/8	Friare Chapter 2, lecture discussion, Paideia demonstration.	
Week 4	2/15	Robinson, Chapter 1 lecture discussion, Paideias. Group 1 media tracking. “Myth of the Liberal Media”	
Week 5	2/22	Robinson, Chapter 2, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 2 media tracking. Moral Panic	
Week 6	3/1	Robinson, Chapter 3, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 3 media tracking. “Buying the War.” Rise of FOX news	
Week 7	3/8	Robinson, Chapter 4, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 4 media tracking. Coverage of race and crime.	
Week 8	3/15	Robinson, Chapter 5, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 5 media tracking. Coverage of police	
Week 9	3/22	Robinson, Chapter 6, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 6 media tracking. Midterm	
Week 10	3/29	SPRING BREAK	
Week 11	4/5	Robinson, Chapter 7, lecture discussion, Paideias Groups 1 and 2 media tracking.	
Week 12	4/12	Robinson, Chapter 8, lecture discussion, Paideias Group 2 and 3 media tracking.	
Week 13	4/19	Fake news lecture discussion Group 4 and 5 media tracking.	
Week 14	4/26	Citizen Journalism lecture discussion Group 6 and instructor media tracking	
Week 15	5/3	Media and democracy. Lecture discussion. Solutions	

Week/Lesson /Module (Delete if not applicable)	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)	Learning Outcomes (Delete if not applicable)
Week16	5/10	Media and the future, solutions.	
Final			
18			
19			
20			
Final Exam		Venue and Time	