San José State University
Justice Studies
JS 274, Applied Projects, Section 80, Spring 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s):   Bryce Westlake, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Monday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00am to 12:00pm
Class Days/Time: Online

Course Description

For this project, a substantial paper of a justice agency program, justice policy, and/or organizational issue is required. The contents will be determined by the student in consultation with the instructor, with whom the student meets regularly for supervision.

Course Format

This is an online graduate level course and is designed to emphasize critical thinking and developing analytical perspectives to an approved justice studies topic. The duration of the course will focus on completing sections of your Applied Project. You will also have the opportunity to present your research to the class and provide feedback on your colleagues' work.

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet). SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students. 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.

This course will require access to Microsoft Office, specifically Word and PowerPoint. If you do not currently own Microsoft Office, the software (both PC and Mac) is available for free to students

If you have technical difficulties at any point please contact Technical Support for Canvas by Email or Phone: (408) 924-2337

MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal to learn of any updates. For help using Canvas Resource page.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
> CLO 1. Independently explore and study a justice agency program, justice policy, and/or organizational issue.
> CLO 2. Formally present their work in both oral presentations and written reports.
> CLO 3. Constructively critique and discuss the work of others.
> CLO 4. Evaluate and synthesize different points of view in understanding a justice agency program, justice policy, and/or organizational issue.

Required Texts/Readings

There are no assigned readings for this class. However, students are required to incorporate at least 40 scholarly sources (peer-reviewed journal articles and academic books) into their applied project. Textbooks are not considered scholarly material. Students may use the scholarly sources they used in previous classes as long as they are directly applicable to the topic under investigation. Students may incorporate non-scholarly sources in their applied project but they do not count towards the scholarly sources required.

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 Craig Monday, MLK Librarian (408) 808-2041 or Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

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

Project Description: Students will develop a detailed outline of their Applied Project. This outline should provide the reader with a blueprint; it should present the sections into which the paper will be divided and the type of content that will be included in each section. The outline provides an important opportunity for students to get feedback on their work to ensure they are on the right track. Outlines will be 5-10 pages in length, include references throughout, single-spaced, paginated, in Times New Roman 12-point font, and have one-inch margins.

Measurement Tool: Students will provide an initial draft of their measurement tool. Depending on the methodology chosen by the students will provide a list of 20 survey/interview questions, categories, or thematic codes.

Presentation: Students will conduct a voiced-over PowerPoint presentation explaining the details of their Applied Project. Presentations are to be between 10 and 12 minutes and should touch on all sections of the final paper.

Peer Reviews: Students will complete eight peer reviews – two each for 'Project Description', 'Presentation', 'Measurement Tool', and for 'Final Paper'. Peer-reviews are expected to have detail regarding the Applied Project, point out specifics of the student's assignment, provide room for improvement in a thoughtful manner that deals specifically with the student's topic, is respectful of the student's work, and more.

Final Paper: The Applied Project is the culminating activity of the MS in Criminology program. It is an independent piece of work by the student that shows their familiarity with the subject matter, mastery of appropriate research methods and capacity for scientific expression. For this project, students are required to complete a substantial paper on a justice agency program, justice policy, or organizational issue. Applied projects must be completed within 8 weeks; please keep this in mind when selecting a project. Applied projects may incorporate surveys, interviews, secondary data, content analysis, or program evaluations. To increase student success, the applied project has been divided into several segments that will be completed over the duration of the course.

Completed applied projects should be between 35 to 45 pages in length (maximum 60), double-spaced, in Times New Roman, with one-inch margins, and contain at least 40 scholarly sources. Students may incorporate other resources but they do not count towards the scholarly sources required. The use of .com websites is highly discouraged, unless there is preapproval by the instructor. APA format is required for the entire paper (from cover page to references/ appendices if used). Direct quotes should be kept to a minimum of one per page. Students should focus on paraphrasing all material to be cited in the project. In-text citations must accompany all material derived from other sources.

Grading Information

This is a credit/no-credit (CR/NC) course. In order to receive credit, students must complete ALL assignments/requirements associated to the applied project, including peer-reviews. Late assignments will not be accepted. If all requirements are not met, students will receive NC—unless they make prior arrangements with the professor to finish with an incomplete (I) and sign a "Contract of Incomplete." The professor may refuse to assign an incomplete (I).

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g., learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on Syllabus Information web page, which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

JS 274 – Applied Project, Spring 2022 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

Module	Date	Assignment	Description of Assignment Due Dates
1	1/26 – 1/30	Initial Meeting	• Schedule one-on-one meeting to go over your project plans prior to Sunday 1/30
2	1/31 – 2/06	Project Description	• Describe your project in detail through discussion board post, due Friday 2/04 • Respond to two students' project description due Sunday 2/06
3	2/07 – 2/13	Literature Review	• Introduction and Literature Review due Sunday 2/13 • Include a minimum of 40 references correctly formatted in APA
4	2/14 – 2/20	Methodology and Measurement Tool	• Methodology and Measurement Tool due Friday 2/18 • Respond to two students' measurement tool due Sunday 2/20
5	2/21 – 2/27	Project Implications and Conclusions	• Project Policy and Research Implications and Conclusion due Sunday 2/27
6	2/28 – 3/06	Presentation of Project	• Voiced-over PowerPoint due Friday 3/04 • Peer-review two students' presentations due Sunday 3/06
7	3/07 – 3/13	Peer Review Due	• Submit draft of your Applied Project due Wednesday 3/09 • Peer-review two students' Applied Projects due Sunday 3/13
8	3/14 – 3/18	Project Due	Applied Project Final Paper due Friday 3/18 at 11:59pm