

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS102-01, Police and Society, Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Greg Woods, J.D.
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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM, via Zoom and Thursdays, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, in person on campus by email appointment; Zoom links available by email request.
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM
Classroom: MacQuarrie Hall 523
Prerequisites: JS 10, 12, 25, or FS 11, and upper division standing; Co-requisite course is: JS 100W.

Course Description

A multidisciplinary study of law enforcement from the early 1800's to the present. Focus on significant studies in relation to the role of police and analysis of current models and practices. Note: Students must achieve a grade of "C" or better (not C-) to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements. 3 Units.

Course Format

Our class is offered on campus and in person. Students are encouraged to review questions and subject matter during class, regularly scheduled Office Hours on Zoom and in person, and/or via email. Supplemental video materials are available through Canvas Modules. Other than our textbook, all other course materials available through Canvas Files.

Justice Studies Department 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.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. *Demonstrate an understanding of the intricate relationship between police and society.*
2. *Develop a broad understanding of the important influence constitutional rights have on policing in a democratic society.*
3. *Critically assess the historical development of policing in America and its influence on policing in modern society.*

4. *Develop skills to distinguish ethical from unethical and unprofessional behavior in policing.*
5. *Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of ethical behavior and accountability of police in a democracy.*
6. *Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.*

Required Textbook

Oliver, Willard M. (2020). *Policing America: An Introduction* (2nd edition). Wolters Kluwer, ISBN 978-1-5438-1087-5

Students may purchase textbooks in the Spartan Bookstore and online.

Other Readings

Additional course materials will be found through Canvas Files.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Internet, computer, microphone & camera.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2041

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Our class is offered on campus and in person. Students are encouraged to review questions and subject matter in class, during regularly scheduled Office Hours in person or on Zoom, and/or via email. 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 practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Weekly Assignments

Students will be assigned **eight (8)** weekly reading and writing assignments in class and as reflected below. Weekly Assignments are due during every other **Thursday** class session, or as instructed, and will consist of a three-to-five paged double spaced typed analysis in 12-point font. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Quizzes

Students will complete a total of **eight (8)** quizzes throughout the semester to be administered at the conclusion of every other **Thursday** class session, or as instructed, in response to subject matter from class lecture. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Final Paper

Students will conduct independent research and craft a thesis paper specific to current police policy in the United States, to be assigned and explained extensively in class, due in the form of a ten-to-fifteen page written analysis during the last scheduled day of instruction (**5/11**) as reflected below. Reliable sources for all assertions should be cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) format. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6). Reliable

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Final Examination

Students will complete a cumulative final examination using key terms and concepts from readings and class discussion consisting of short and essay based questions (5/23) as reflected below. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Participation

Students are invited to participate during class in an informed, professional and respectful manner, check in during Office Hours at least once throughout the semester, and consistently submit quality work in a timely manner. Participation credit will be rewarded in response to student presence, preparedness and politeness during class sessions. (CLO 1, 2, 5 & 6)

Grading Information

Final grades will be evaluated as follows:

Weekly Assignments (8)	20%
Quizzes (8)	20%
Final Paper	25%
Final Examination	25%
Participation	10%

Determination of Grades:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>960 to 1000</i>	<i>96 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>930 to 959</i>	<i>93 to 95%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>900 to 929</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>860 to 899</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>830 to 859</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>800 to 829</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>760 to 799</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>730 to 759</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>700 to 729</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>660 to 699</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>630 to 659</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>600 to 629</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

Please Note: Extra credit will not be awarded, late assignments will not be accepted for credit without prior agreement.

Students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades. **Students are encouraged to review their progress during Office Hours or by appointment no later than Week Eight (Thursday, March 16th)** and periodically throughout the semester during office hours and/or by email appointment.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance/Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are encouraged. Students who are routinely inattentive, discourteous or who choose not to contribute to classroom discussion and activities, will be noted and may result with up to 10% (one letter grade) deducted from the final grade.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will not be accepted for credit without prior agreement.

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 (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Additional Information

All sources of information to support written assertions must be cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) Format. PLEASE NOTE: Detection of plagiarism will result with NO CREDIT.

JS102-01/Police and Society, Spring 2023

Students are assigned reading, writing and research assignments during class and as reflected below.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	January 26	<p>Introductions/Course overview; Syllabus, Class, Assignment, Quiz & Final Examination formats; SARA model problem-solving approach; Law enforcement Oath of Office; To protect and serve who exactly? Review Assignment #1/Quiz #1 (DUE 2/2); Discussion: <i>What is the role and purpose of police in the United States? Do we need police today?</i></p>
2	January 31 & February 2	<p>Assignment #1 & Quiz #1 (DUE 2/2); A time before cops; Dawn of the police station; General strategies for crime prevention and response; Constables, Night Watches, Marshals, Sheriffs and the evolution of early American law enforcement; Tensions between the interest to control crime and individual expectations of due process; Government v. Private agencies; Read Chapters 1 & 2: Policing, History (pgs 1-50); Review Keywords (pgs 22 & 50); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Assignment #1: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 21 & 50) and Quiz #1</p>
3	February 7 & 9	<p>Review Assignment #1/Quiz #1; Sir Robert Peel, The Metropolitan Police Act of 1829 & Nine Principles of Policing; Vigilance Committees; Policing by consent; Enforcing the Rule of Law, whipping posts & hanging trees; Warriors v. Guardians; Review Weekly Assignment #2 (DUE 2/16); Assign Quiz #2 (DUE 2/16); Read Chapter 3: Agencies (pgs 55-83) & Glossary (pgs 439-465); Discussion: <i>To what does a police officer typically swear in their oath of office? Why are police officers required to make such an oath? What is significant about The Metropolitan Police Act of 1829? Are Peel's Nine Principles relevant today?</i></p>
4	February 14 & 16	<p>Assignment #2 & Quiz #2 (DUE 2/16); Constitutional fidelity & Policy to reflect community demand; <u>Mapp v. Ohio</u>, 367 U.S. 643 (1961), <u>Miranda v. Arizona</u>, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), <u>Terry v. Ohio</u>, 392 U.S. 1 (1968) and Stop & Frisk, The Exclusionary Rule & Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doctrine; Read Chapter 4: Organization (pgs 89-115); Review Keywords (pg 116); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Assignment #2: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 83 & 115) and Quiz #2</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	February 21 & 23	<p>Assign Final Paper (DUE NO LATER THAN 5/11); Review Assignment #2/Quiz #2; Policy reform & Improving police effectiveness; Community-Oriented Policing (COP) and Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Models; Officer Involved Shootings & the Ferguson effect; Reliance on citizens for authority, information, and collaboration; Review Weekly Assignment #3 (DUE 3/2); Assign Quiz #3 (DUE 3/2); Read Chapter 5: Careers (pgs 119-149); Review Keywords (pgs 149-150); Discussion: <i>What is the primary difference between reasonable suspicion and probable cause? Should police agencies in California employ “Stop and Frisk” policy?</i></p>
6	February 28 & March 2	<p>Assignment #3 & Quiz #3 (DUE 3/2); Five C’s of Law Enforcement Leadership: Courage, Character, Commitment, Compassion & Communication; Command structures and organizational design; Managing group behavior and police subcultures; Read Chapter 6: Authority (pgs 155-183); Review Keywords (pg 183); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #3: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 149 & 183) and Quiz #3</p>
7	March 7 & 9	<p>Review Assignment #3/Quiz #3; The role of the Police Commission; Changes in leadership, the “Frisco 5” demands “Fire Chief Suhr!” & the dismissal of Chicago police superintendent McCarthy; Federal Oversight, Pattern-or-Practice Investigations by the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division & the Impact on the Police Departments of Oakland, CA, Ferguson, MO, and Baltimore, MD; Review Weekly Assignment #4 (DUE 3/16); Assign Quiz #4 (DUE 3/16); Read Chapter 7: Discretion (pgs 187-207); Review Keywords (pg 208); Discussion: <i>In what way does the Investigation of the Ferguson Police Department, published by the United States Department of Justice, March 4, 2015, impact police reform and organizational change? What does the “Ferguson effect” mean? How does this concept attempt to explain increased rates of crime throughout the United States?</i></p>
8	March 14 & 16	<p>Assignment #4 & Quiz #4 (DUE 3/16); Recruitment and selection methods to reflect a fair cross section of the community; Becoming a Police Officer and the Academy experience; Field Training Officer (FTO) and Police Training Officer (PTO) Programs; Read Chapter 8: Culture (pgs 213-233); Review Keywords (pgs 233-234); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #4: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 207 & 233) and Quiz #4</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	March 21 & 23	Review Assignment #4/Quiz #4; Patrol methods and function; Police Reports; Guns and Gangs; Wellness checks, quality of life & Crisis Intervention Training; Crime Scene Investigation, Amber Alerts, 911 calls & Sobriety checkpoints; Fingerprints, DNA samples and Evidence collection; Body cameras; Impact of cell phone ubiquity; Arrest, Interviewing and Interrogation; Good Cop/Bad Cop & the Reid Technique; Review Weekly Assignment #5 (DUE 4/6); Assign Quiz #5 (DUE 4/6); Read Chapter 9: Strategies (pgs 237-267); Review Keywords (pg 268); Discussion: <i>Is it important for police departments to recruit from the communities they serve?</i>
10	March 28 & 30	SPRING RECESS. NO CLASSES IN SESSION!
11	April 4 & 6	Assignment #5 & Quiz #5 (DUE 4/6); Police deviance and corruption; Whistleblower Protection; Public scrutiny and decision making; Police Officer Associations (POA), Internal Affairs & Policing the “Thin Blue Line”; Implicit Bias awareness; Read Chapter 10: Patrol (pgs 271-292); Review Keywords (pg 292); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #5: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 267 & 292) and Quiz #5
12	April 11 & 13	Review Assignment #5/Quiz #5; Police contacts with the public; Use of force; Rodney King & Excessive Force; Officer Involved Shootings Revisited; De-escalation Techniques & Alternatives to Lethal Force; Responding to social unrest; Review Weekly Assignment #6 (DUE 4/20); Assign Quiz #6 (DUE 4/20); Read Chapter 11: Investigations (pgs 297-317); Review Keywords (pg 317); Discussion: <i>What is a police gratuity? Is acceptance of gratuities a serious problem for police in the United States? What is the rule regarding police use of force? Is excessive force ever justified? How might de-escalation techniques impact current rates of officer involved shootings?</i>
13	April 18 & 20	Assignment #6 & Quiz #6 (DUE 4/20); Personal Liability while Under the Color of Law; 42 U.S.C. §1983 (a.k.a. the Civil Rights Act) of 1871; Integrity training and ethical standards; Read Chapter 12: Force (pgs 321-346); Review Keywords (pg 346); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #6: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 317 & 346) and Quiz #6

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	April 25 & 27	Review Assignment #6/Quiz #6; Prevention, intervention and treatment of juvenile offenders; Due Process, Equal Protection, Unequal treatment & Black Lives Matter; The legacy of Chief Penny Harrington; Review Weekly Assignment #7 (DUE 5/4); Assign Quiz #7 (DUE 5/4); Read Chapter 13: Accountability (pgs 351-376); Review Keywords (pgs 376-377); Discussion: <i>In what ways might a law enforcement officer be liable for the use of excessive force? How might an officer involved shooting violate civil rights?</i>
15	May 2 & 4	Assignment #7 & Quiz #7 (DUE 5/4); Developing Police Writing, Communication and Critical Thinking Skills; Trans-Jurisdictional Policing in the age of terror and beyond; Use of Robotics, Artificial Intelligence technology and the Combined DNA Index System; Federal Initiatives, the 1033 Program, Surveillance Drones & Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; Review Weekly Assignment #8 (DUE 5/11); Assign Quiz #8 (DUE 5/11); Read Chapters 14 & 15: Stress & Issues (pgs 381-432); Review Keywords (pgs 381-402 & 432); Prepare, Submit and be ready to discuss Weekly Assignment #7: Responses to Ask Yourself Questions (pgs 376, 401-402 & 432) and Quiz #7
16 Final Paper Due (5/11)	May 9 & 11	Prepare and Submit Assignment #8, Quiz #8 & Final Paper (DUE 5/11); Prepare questions for Final Review (5/9); Review for Final Examination; Final Thoughts.
Final Examination	Tuesday, May 23	MacQuarrie Hall 523 9:45 AM - 12:00 PM