

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS 155: Victimology, Spring 2021**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Professor Grace Howard
<b>Office Location:</b>	<a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6636734478">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6636734478</a>
<b>Email:</b>	grace.howard@sjsu.edu
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Wednesday, 2-2:50; Tuesday/Thursday, 1:30-2:30 via zoom, or by appointment.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Course modules will be posted by 3pm on Wednesday. Optional synchronous zoom meetings will take place on Wednesday at 3. These will be recorded and posted for students who are unable to attend.
<b>Classroom:</b>	<a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6636734478">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6636734478</a>
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Any 100W

**Course Format**

This is a “high flex” online course. This means there will be synchronous activities and asynchronous activities for students. Because we are not in a “normal” time, this modality is meant to accommodate students with wacky schedules, caregiving responsibilities, etc. We will have class meetings every Wednesday. While attendance is recommended, it is also optional. Class meetings will be recorded and posted to the class Canvas page so those who are unable to attend can watch and learn.

**Course Description**

Examination of the relationship between victim and offender; the behavior and attitudes of family, society and justice system toward the victim; nature and extent of loss, injury and damage to the victim.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course:

CLO1 Students will have learned the theories and methods of victimology.

CLO2 Students will have an understanding of the relationship between victim and offender from competing points of view.

CLO3 Students will develop a critical understanding of the behavior and attitudes of family, society, and the criminal justice system toward the victim.

CLO4 Students will be able to identify the nature and extent of loss, injury, and damage to the victim.

CLO5 Students should read, write, and contribute to discussion at a skilled and capable level.

## **Justice Studies 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.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

There is no assigned text book for this class. All readings will be posted to the class Canvas page.

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

#### **Exams (30% of final grade)**

The Midterm and Final are due on March 24 and May 21 respectively. They are worth 15% each. Students should assume that all material covered in the lectures, readings, videos, guest speakers and hand-outs will be covered on the exams unless otherwise indicated. Exams will encompass multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

(SLO1, SLO2, SLO3, SLO4)

#### **Journal Project (20% of final grade)**

A journal entry is due in the beginning of an assigned class and should be approximately 1 page, double spaced. The journal might be a log of your reactions and insights on the topic covered in readings and lectures, perhaps typing in it after each class or after conducting the readings. Alternatively, you can reflect on what the class has caused you to think about, or things you are noticing around you due to the class material. You can write about your personal experiences past or present. The journals should not be a summary of the facts learned in the lectures or your lecture notes, but rather your evaluation of what you're learning, how what you are learning applies to your life, and what you think is accurate or inaccurate, unique, and so on about the readings, lecture, videos, and guest speakers. You can use the journal to critique and expand upon the readings. Consider this a chance to analyze the material any way you would like. I want to see you are critically thinking of the material and what it means. (SLO2, SLO3, SLO4, SLO5)

#### **Canvas Discussion (20% of final grade)**

Each student will submit 4 canvas discussion assignments. Descriptions of the homework assignments will be announced in class and posted online. Hard copies of the assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. You will be graded not only on content (how well you thought about the assignment) but also on your use of proper English (e.g. punctuation, grammar, spelling, and tense.) (SLO3, SLO5)

#### **Current Event Presentation (10% of final grade)**

Each student will create and post a presentation of a current event relevant to the course over the semester. You could make a flyer, a powerpoint, an audio or video recording, or a simple text document. I'll post an example for you to base your presentation on. This should be about 5 minutes long.

#### **Quizzes (20% of final grade)**

Quizzes will be held online through Canvas. You may use your class notes but you should not work with other students on these quizzes.

## Grading Policy

Grades will be used along with substantive feedback to indicate students' performance in a variety of tasks. Exams and final grades will be calculated as a percentage on a typical "100 point scale." Missing or plagiarized work will be given a grade of zero. Please contact me if you are having difficulty completing assignments or if you need accommodations for disabilities or absences for religious holidays. The final course grade will be calculated based on the following standard scale:

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

Please note, a "C" or higher is required to receive credit for this course toward a Justice Studies of Forensic Science Major.

## Classroom Protocol

1. This course depends on participation and interaction. Try to stay on schedule with the course modules and assignments. Come to our Zoom class meetings ready to discuss and ask questions!
2. It's a weird time for everybody right now. Please bring patience and care for yourself, your classmates, and your professor. Remember—we are all human first!
3. All classroom participants are expected to foster an environment that encourages participation, rather than silencing others (be respectful to one another, do not insult or intimidate others, evaluate alternative views with an open mind). We will discuss ground rules and develop classroom standards of conduct at the beginning of the semester.
4. Students are encouraged to complete all readings and assignments by the dates indicated on the syllabus. Be sure to check the course Canvas website regularly for updates.
5. Students are responsible for any and all notes and materials missed in their absence.
6. Readings about victimization can be challenging intellectually, personally, and emotionally. All students are encouraged to engage in self-care. This means that if particular topics or course materials raise emotional or other personal issues, you can simply choose not to speak or to leave the discussion without being penalized. Should you have any questions or concerns, including concerns about triggering content, please feel free to contact me! Your safety and wellbeing are so important!

If you or a friend is in need of emotional support, please visit SJSU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) [www.sjsu.edu/counseling](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) service. Phone: (408) 924-5910. Location: Student Wellness Center, Room 300.

Additional confidential services include:

Next Door: (408) 279-2962, [www.nextdoor.org](http://www.nextdoor.org), 234 E. Gish Road, Suite 200, San José CA 95112; YWCA Silicon Valley: 24 Hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Support Hotline, (408) 295-4011, [www.ywca-sv.org](http://www.ywca-sv.org), 375 S. Third Street, San José, CA 95112.

## **University Policies**

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) will 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.

“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.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of

Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

### **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

### **Technology Requirements**

Students are required to have an electronic device, preferably with a microphone. SJSU has a free equipment [loan program](#) available for students.

Students will need access to reliable internet for participation in this class. If you do not currently have reliable Wi-Fi, please inform the instructor as soon as possible to come up with a plan. See [Learn Anywhere](#) website for current Wi-Fi options on campus.

### **Zoom Classroom Etiquette**

- **Camera use is encouraged but optional!** This class is happening online because of a public health emergency. You might have not ever wanted to take this class online! With that in mind, camera use is encouraged (I like to see your faces!) but is ultimately optional. If you use your camera, I expect you to wear clothing of some sort. No need to get fancy. PJs and sloppy hair are fully acceptable! Just make sure your “swimsuit areas” are covered.
- **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 papers, listening to music in the background, etc.

- **Position Your Camera Properly:** If you are using one, 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:** Using a virtual background is a great way to try and preserve some of your privacy! If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.

# JS 155, Victimology, Spring 2021

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Any changes will be announced and posted on Canvas.

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/27	Introduction to the class
2	2/3	Introduction to victimology
3	2/10	Extent, theories, and factors of victimization
4	2/17	The victim-offender overlap
5	2/24	Consequences of victimization
6	3/3	Recurring victimization
7	3/10	Victims rights and remedies
8	3/17	Homicide victimization
9	3/24	Sexual victimization <b>Midterm Exam</b>
10	3/31	<b>SPRING BREAK! Rest! Do something fun!</b>
11	4/7	Intimate partner violence
12	4/14	Victimization at the beginning and end of life
13	4/21	Victimization of special populations
14	4/28	Victimization at school and work
15	5/5	Contemporary issues in victimology
16	5/12	Final class, conclusions, goodbyes!
Final Exam	May 21	