# **Justice Studies Spring 2024 Registration Memo**

## **Advising Resources:**

* Students may contact their assigned Justice Studies academic advisor if they have questions or need guidance after reviewing this memo, as well as their Academic Requirements on MyMadison and the catalog
* Students may also contact the Justice Studies Advising Coordinator, [Daisy Breneman](mailto:brenemdl@jmu.edu)
* The [Madison Advising Peers](https://www.jmu.edu/advising/acadplan/peers.shtml) (MAPs) are a great resource, especially with Gen Ed, degree, or university elective requirements, or other general advising questions

## Overrides:

* The department works off the waitlist; we do not give overrides
* If a course is full, you can put your name on the waitlist; the waitlist is first-come, first-served, and does not mean, or guarantee, you’ll be enrolled in the course; you should enroll in another course so that you have alternatives
* JUST 399 or 400 are the exceptions; make these courses the FIRST courses you enroll in. If you are a senior and cannot enroll in the course, contact the department at [justicestudies@jmu.edu](mailto:justicestudies@jmu.edu) as soon as possible (during your enrollment appointment); we cannot guarantee placement in specific sections
* CHECK MyMadison before your enrollment appointment to make sure you don’t have any holds on your record that might prevent you from registering; it’s very important that you enroll during your enrollment appointment (also listed on MyMadison); we cannot offer overrides to students who missed their enrollment appointment

## **Progression in the major:**

* It takes **at least 5 semesters** to complete the major, due to the prerequisite structure
  + **JUST 200 is a prerequisite** for all other JUST major courses; students must successfully complete JUST 200 in order to take any other JUST course, no exceptions
  + JUST 200 and at least one foundation course (JUST 210, JUST 212, JUST 235, JUST 237, JUST 221, or JUST 223) are requirements for all 300-level courses
  + Students must take at least one 300-level course before taking JUST 399; MATH 220 is another prerequisite for JUST 399
  + Successful completion of JUST 399 is a prerequisite for JUST 400
* Check your **Academic Requirements** page on MyMadison to determine which requirements you’ve met and which you still need to meet, as well as which courses will count as your concentration electives. At least 4 of the 6 required upper-level major electives must be JUST-designated. You should also refer to the Undergraduate Catalog and Academic Requirements on MyMadison for more information about major requirements

## **Important notes on Justice Studies Curriculum Changes:**

* All Justice Studies majors must follow **the catalog year when they declared the Justice Studies major**; those requirements will be reflected on the Academic Requirements page in MyMadison and in your year of the Undergraduate Catalog. **It’s important that you access the correct catalog year!**
* Students planning to declare a concentration should do in MyMadison as soon as possible so that Academic Requirements in MyMadison will accurately reflect required courses.
* For students who are **General Justice Studies** majors, taking one foundation course per concentration (so, JUST 210 or 212; JUST 221 or 223; JUST 235 or 237, for a total of three courses, or 9 credits, is one of the core requirements.

## **JUST 301 Electives:**

* Each section of JUST 301: Advanced Special Topics deals with a different topic**. Students cannot repeat the same/similar topic for credit**, including if the course number has changed; otherwise, there’s no limit on the number of JUST 301s students can take. This semester, the JUST 301s being offered are as follows:
  + Section 01, Housing and Justice (Concentrations A, B, C, and General Major)

This course is designed to provide a general overview of housing challenges and strategies in the United States, such as historical and current issues in housing, including for specific populations, as well as the ever-changing landscape of affordable housing, and ways we can become advocates for housing for all.

* + Section 02, Justice in Healthcare (Concentrations A, B, C, and General Major)

This course will examine issues of justice in healthcare, both in the U.S. and globally. We will look at social and political determinants of health, and explore themes surrounding barriers to health equity, including gender and gender identity, nationality, socioeconomic background, and immigration status.

## **JUST 400: Senior Seminar**

*Graduating seniors must make JUST 400 the first course they select in constructing a schedule.*

JUST 400, Section 1:

This section of the course will have a broad focus, examining multiple aspects of justice. Work in the class will be centered around the production of the course paper. Students can choose their own topic for this paper, and to serve as their area of concentration in the class.

JUST 400, Section 2: Lynching and Racial Violence in the United States

This senior seminar explores racialized terrorism in the United States, from post-Reconstruction lynching to contemporary hate crimes. Particular attention will be devoted to analyzing the and legacy of lynching in Virginia. In addition to conducting weekly research assignments, in their final research paper students will analyze trends, patterns and causes of racial violence in the United States.

JUST 400, Section 3: Doing Justice

The Senior Seminar capstone course in the Justice Studies major serves as a culminating academic experience. In this section of the course, students will learn how to develop an issue of justice into a social action campaign to change or create a policy, program, or practice. My hope is that you will develop a deeper understanding of public issues, power, democracy, community change, and justice by integrating research, praxis and theory.  There is one required book for the course: *CHANGE! A Student Guide to Social Action* (Routledge, 2018); note this is the first edition; do not purchase the second edition of the book.

## ****JUST 401: Internships****

* Internships are recommended, but not required, and are by application only
* Most students complete internships over the summer, as the requirements can be hard to meet during the regular semester
* 180 hours are required (for the 3-credit section), in addition to academic work related to the experience
* Students must apply and be accepted, and then, with permission, enroll in the internship course, JUST 401, for academic credit; requirements include junior or senior status, successful completion of JUST 399, and good academic standing
* Learn more on the [internship page](https://www.jmu.edu/justicestudies/internship.shtml) on the Justice Studies website
* Internship inquiries can be directed [to the department](mailto:justicestudies@jmu.edu), Dr. Peggy Plass, or Daisy Breneman

## **JUST 499: Honors**

* All Honors students who are doing an honors thesis in the department must enroll in JUST 499 A, B or C (depending on the stage of the project)
* Interested students should contact Dr. Peggy Plass for enrollment information and permission
* Students must meet the requirements [outlined on the website](https://www.jmu.edu/justicestudies/honors.shtml)