

Syllabus

CRJ-463: Forensics

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Course Description

This course introduces students to the collection of forensic evidence, the analysis of forensic evidence, and the use of forensic evidence in criminal trials.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: None

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge: Basic computer skills

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Outline the historical development of the forensic sciences.
2. Explain the professional link between the crime scene investigator and the forensic criminalist.
3. Define the crime laboratory as a viable component to criminal investigations.
4. Explain the common items of physical evidence encountered at crime scenes.
5. Explain the proper collection and preservation of evidence found at crime scenes.
6. Identify the forms of forensic analysis.
7. Identify the capabilities and limitations of crime laboratories with regard to the comparison/analysis of various types of physical evidence.

Course Textbook

Gaensslen, R. E., Harris, H. A., & Lee, H. C. (2008). *Introduction to Forensic Science & Criminalistics*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill

Grading Scale

Grade	Quality Points Per Credit	Percentage	Score
A	4.0	95% - 100%	950 - 1000
A-	3.7	92% - 94.9%	920 - 949
B+	3.3	89% - 91.9%	890 - 919
B	3.0	85% - 88.9%	850 - 889
B-	2.7	82% - 84.9%	820 - 849

C+	2.3	79% - 81.9%	790 - 819
C	2.0	75% - 78.9%	750 - 789
C-	1.7	72% - 74.9%	720 - 749
D+	1.3	69% - 71.9%	690 - 719
D	1.0	65% - 68.9%	650 - 689
F	.0	0% - 64.9%	0 - 649

Grading Policies

Your grading policy for your course is dependent on your school and program. Your grading policies can be found in the IWU Catalog. <http://indwes.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2013-2014/Catalog>

Letter Grade Equivalencies

Grade	Description of Work
A	Clearly stands out as excellent performance. Has unusually sharp insights into material and initiates thoughtful questions. Sees many sides of an issue. Articulates well and writes logically and clearly. Integrates ideas previously learned from this and other disciplines. Anticipates next steps in progression of ideas. Example "A" work should be of such nature that it could be put on reserve for all cohort members to review and emulate. The "A" cohort member is, in fact, an example for others to follow.
B	Demonstrates a solid comprehension of the subject matter and always accomplishes all course requirements. Serves as an active participant and listener. Communicates orally and in writing at an acceptable level for the degree program. Work shows intuition and creativity. Example "B" work indicates good quality of performance and is given in recognition for solid work; a "B" should be considered a good grade and awarded to those who submit assignments of quality less than the exemplary work described above.
C	Quality and quantity of work in and out of class is average. Has marginal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at least minimally.

D	Quality and quantity of work is below average. Has minimal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at below acceptable levels.
F	Quality and quantity of work is unacceptable and does not qualify the student to progress to a more advanced level of work.

Course Workshop Summary

Workshop	Discussion*	Assignment*	Biblical Wisdom*	Total Points per Workshop
Workshop One	1/30	3/165	1/5	200
Workshop Two	1/30	3/165	1/5	200
Workshop Three	1/50	2/145	1/5	200
Workshop Four	1/30	3/165	1/5	200
Workshop Five	2/80	2/115	1/5	200
TOTAL	6/220	8/755	5/25	1000

* Number of Activities/Sum Point Totals

Course Assignments

Workshop One Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
Totals		18 hours*	200

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
1.1 Discussion: Biblical Wisdom	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	5
1.2 Discussion: Handling Physical Evidence	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	30
1.3 Assignment: Post-Reading Assessment	Due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	35
1.4 Assignment: History of Forensic Science	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	65
1.5 Assignment: The State of Forensic Science	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	65
Totals		18 hours*	200

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Workshop Two Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
2.1 Discussion: Biblical Wisdom	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	1 hour	5
2.2 Discussion: Crime Scene Procedure	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	4 hours	30
2.3 Assignment: Post-Reading Assessment	Due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	35
2.4 Assignment: Evidence Collection Methods	Due by the end of the workshop	4 hours	65
Totals		15 hours*	200

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
2.5 Assignment: Reconstruction Patterns	Due by the end of the workshop	4 hours	65
Totals		15 hours*	200

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Workshop Three Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
3.1 Discussion: Biblical Wisdom	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	1 hour	5
3.2 Discussion: Limitations of Physical Evidence	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	55
3.3 Assignment: Post-Reading Assessment	Due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	60
3.4 Assignment: Pattern Types of Evidence	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	80
Totals		14 hours*	200

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Workshop Four Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
4.1 Discussion: Biblical Wisdom	Initial posting due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; one response due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	5
Totals		18 hours*	200

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
4.2 Discussion: Biological Evidence	Initial posting due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; one response due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	30
4.3 Assignment: Post-Reading Assessment	Due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	35
4.4 Assignment: Handling Dried Blood As Evidence	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	50
4.5 Assignment: Class Service Learning	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	50
Totals		18 hours*	200

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Workshop Five Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
5.1 Discussion: Biblical Wisdom	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; one response due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	5
5.2 Discussion: Arson and Bomb Crimes	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; one response due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	40
5.3 Discussion: Crime Scene Evidence	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; one response due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	40
5.4 Assignment: Post-Reading Assessment	Due by the end of the workshop	30 minutes	35
5.5 Assignment: Program and Policy Effectiveness	Due by the end of the workshop	5 hours	80
Totals		13:30 hours*	200

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
End of Course Survey	Due by the end of the workshop	30 minutes	10 Extra Credit Points
Totals		13:30 hours*	200

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Expectations, Policies, and Important Student Information

School/Division	Link
DeVoe School of Business Division of Liberal Arts School of Services and Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
School of Educational Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Wesley Seminary @ IWU	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Nursing - Undergraduate	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Nursing - Graduate	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information