

## **ENF460 Evidence Processing (4 credit hours) Syllabus**

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### **Course Description**

This course provides the student with an introduction to the admissibility and rules of evidence in American jurisprudence. The goal of the course is for the student to develop a general understanding and appreciation of the rules of evidence and the correct procedure in obtaining admissible evidence for later use at trial. Equally important, the student will understand the requirements of the Fourth Amendment to the constitution relative to obtaining search warrants, so that evidence gathered during these events will be admissible later at trial.

This course will also cover admissions, confessions, the hearsay rule of evidence, the safe collection of physical evidence, computer evidence, digital photographs, and the role of the prosecutor and defense in the trial process.

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### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Understand the development and interpretation of physical evidence.
2. Interpret information and evidence found at crime sites.
3. Demonstrate and understand documentation of crime scene through photographs, diagrams, and evidence collection.
4. Demonstrate the ability to locate and obtain information from blood and other biological evidence.
5. Understand the collection of evidence, and give testimony to footprint, footwear, and tire impression.
6. Understand rules of investigative processes and how they apply to crime scene investigations.

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### **Course Topics**

Fundamentals of evidence  
Overview of evidence  
The judicial process  
The trial process  
Exclusions of evidence  
Crime scenes  
Crime scene search  
Physical evidence  
Types of physical evidence  
Audio/video evidence

Technology and evidence  
Hearsay evidence

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### Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Junior/Senior Standing

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### Required Textbook(s) and Resources

These are the materials you will need to purchase for the course:

Lee, G. D. (2007). *Practical criminal evidence*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall. ISBN: 9780131714410

Lee, H. C., & Labriola, J. (2006). *Dr. Henry Lee's forensic files: Five famous cases-- Scott Peterson, Elizabeth Smart, and more--*. Amherst, N.Y: Prometheus Books. ISBN: 9781591024095

Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements. Where applicable, Tiffin University has obtained permission to use copyrighted material.

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### Minimum Student Technology Requirements

In order to have a quality learning experience in your online courses, the University requires that your primary computer (the computer used to access course materials and on which you will be required to install course-specific software) meets or exceeds certain specifications. Click on the following link to view the specifications:

- [PC Recommendations](#)

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### Time Management

Time management is an important part of academic success. Please refer to the approximate (average) times noted below for readings and assignments to help plan your time accordingly.

### Course Content

Please refer to individual activities for assessment guidelines.

WEEK 1			
<b>Course Topics</b>	Fundamentals of evidence Overview of evidence		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 1 Lecture 1, 2, 3 File (PDF): Presentation Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>

Introductory Discussion: Initial Post	CLO(s): n/a	Monday	0.50 hrs.
Discussion: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 4, 5	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Quiz	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Sunday	2.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>15.00 hrs.</b>

<b>WEEK 2</b>			
<b>Course Topics</b>	The judicial process The trial process		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 2 Lecture 1, 2, 3 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 4, 5, 6	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Quiz	CLO(s): 4, 5, 6	Sunday	2.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>18.25 hrs.</b>

<b>WEEK 3</b>			
<b>Course Topics</b>	Exclusions of evidence		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 6 Lecture 1, 2 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	5.50 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 3, 4	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 4, 5	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Quiz	CLO(s): 5, 6	Sunday	2.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>19.75 hrs.</b>

<b>WEEK 4</b>			
<b>Course Topics</b>	Crime scenes Crime scene search		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 8 Lecture 1, 2, 3 File (PDF): Presentation 1, 2 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.

Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 3, 4, 5	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 3, 4	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Midterm Exam	CLO(s): 5, 6	Sunday	4.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>20.50 hrs.</b>

### WEEK 5

<b>Course Topics</b>	Physical evidence Types of physical evidence		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 9 Lecture 1, 2, 3 File (PDF): Presentation Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 5	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 4, 5	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Quiz	CLO(s): 5, 6	Sunday	2.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>18.50 hrs.</b>

### WEEK 6

<b>Course Topics</b>	Audio/video evidence Technology and evidence		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 10 Textbook (Lee & Labriola): Select one case Lecture 1, 2 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 2, 3	Sunday	6.00 hrs.
Quiz	CLO(s): 5, 6	Sunday	2.00 hrs.
Course Project: Case Study	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Sunday	30.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>49.25 hrs.</b>

### WEEK 7

<b>Course Topics</b>	Hearsay evidence		
<b>Read/Review</b>			<b>Approx. Time</b>
<b>Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources</b>	Textbook (Lee): Chapter 11 Lecture File (PDF): Presentation Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		1.00 hrs. 0.25 hrs. 0.25 hrs.
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>

Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Wednesday	4.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 6	n/a	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Essay	CLO(s): 4, 5	Thursday	6.00 hrs.
Discussion: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.00 hrs.
Final Exam	CLOS(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Sunday	4.00 hrs.
<b>Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)</b>			<b>17.50 hrs.</b>
<b>Approximate Time on Task for Entire Course</b>			<b>158.75 hrs.</b>

## Grading Structure

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Introductory Discussion	n/a							0
Discussion 1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Discussion 2		10	10	10	10	10	10	60
Assignment	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	140
Quiz/Exam	5	5	5	25	5	5	25	75
Course Project						100		100
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>445</b>

Activity Categories	Percentage of Total Points
Discussions	29.0%
Assignments	31.5%
Quizzes & Exams	17.0%
Course Project	22.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Grading Scale	
Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Please see the Academic Bulletin for grade appeal information.

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## FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects student information. Other than directory information, such as name, address, phone number, etc., students must give consent for individuals to gain access to a student's educational record,

including grades, transcripts, and behavior reports (unless the student is under the age of 18). Students also have the right to review their educational records. For a more detailed explanation, please see the Student Handbook.

### **Office for Student Accessibility Services**

Please refer to your Moodle Home page for Office for Student Accessibility Services contact information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

### **Veterans**

Please refer to your Moodle Home page for services for veterans, service members, and their families.

### **Moodle and Non-Moodle Technical Support**

Blackboard Student Services will provide 24x7 Moodle helpdesk support for all Tiffin University students and faculty. Locate contact information for Blackboard Student Services (Moodle-related issues) and for Tiffin University ITS helpdesk (non-Moodle related issues) on your Moodle Home page.

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This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the University.