

ADMJ-140: INTRODUCTION TO CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

Effective Term

Fall 2022

CC Approval

11/19/2021

AS Approval

12/07/2021

BOT Approval

12/09/2021

COCI Approval

N/A

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Administration of Justice (Any Degree and Professional Experience)	Or

Subject Code

ADMJ - Administration of Justice

Course Number

140

Department

Administration of Justice

Division

Administration of Justice (ADMJ)

Full Course Title

Introduction To Crime Scene Investigation

Short Title

Intro To Crime Scene Investig

CB03 TOP Code

2105.00 - *Administration of Justice

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

C - Clearly Occupational

Rationale

Periodic course update, textbook update, revision of course learning outcomes.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course introduces an in-depth analysis and discussion of the nature and significance of various types of physical evidence commonly found at a crime scenes. The course combines theoretical concepts associated with the use of physical evidence in the forensic setting with student involvement in the processing of simulated crime scenes.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

4.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Lab Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

108

Total Student Hours

216

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Produce written communications that meet the standards for transfer and a criminal justice system professional.
2.	Explain the role of forensic specialists in the criminal justice system.
3.	Identify various types of crime scenes.
4.	Utilize investigative tools, technology, and methods.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Explain the role of forensic specialists in the criminal justice system.
2.	Discuss the differences between crime scene processing and crime scene analysis.
3.	Differentiate the types of pattern evidence and explain their respective importance in crime scene reconstruction.
4.	Describe Personal Identification Patterns (PIP) that identify a person.
5.	Discuss the processes for analyzing questioned documents.
6.	Discuss the processes for analyzing tool mark and firearm evidence.
7.	Explain the three methods of DNA typing.
8.	Describe the procedures for the collection and preservation of DNA evidence to prevent contamination.
9.	Differentiate the chemical and material evidence in arson and explosives crime scenes.
10.	Identify various types of crime scenes.
11.	Utilize investigative tools, technology, and methods.
12.	Reconstruct a crime scene.

Course Content

1. Introduction to physical evidence
 - a. The role of physical evidence in criminal investigation
 - b. The role of the first officer in securing, protecting, and preserving the crime scene
 - c. The role and responsibility of the crime scene technician
 - d. Crime scene search techniques
2. Crime scene photography
 - a. Principles of photography
 - b. Photography as evidence
 - c. Technical applications
3. Crime scene sketching
 - a. Principles of crime scene sketching
 - b. Sketches in the courtroom
4. Physical evidence
 - a. Fingerprints
 - b. Shoe prints, tire marks and miscellaneous impressions
 - c. Tool marks
 - d. Firearms
 - e. Wound characteristics
 - i. Firearms
 - ii. Other weapons
 - iii. Blunt trauma
5. Explosives and arson
6. Trace evidence
 - a. Hair
 - b. Soil
 - c. Fibers
 - d. Glass
 - e. Metals
 - f. Chemicals
 - g. Paint
7. Physiological Fluids
 - a. Blood
 - b. Semen
 - c. Saliva
8. Questioned documents
9. Evidence associated with death scenes
10. Evidence associated with sexual assaults
11. DNA evidence
 - a. DNA typing
 - b. Collection and preservation methods

12. Pattern evidence
13. The collection process
 - a. Recording
 - b. Documenting
 - c. Packaging
 - d. Preservation
14. The criminalistics laboratory
 - a. The role of the laboratory
 - b. Typical examinations and tests
 - i. Trace metal
 - ii. Gunshot residue
 - iii. Blood
 - iv. Fingerprints
 - v. Impressions
15. Use of microscope and alternate light sources
16. Evidence analysis for class and individual characteristics
17. Crime scene analysis

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	For example: 1. Create a diagram of a crime scene based on a scenario provided by the instructor. 2. Locate and lift latent fingerprints.
Discussion	For example: 1. Discuss in small groups a case study involving the processing of a crime scene. 2. Discuss in class techniques for analyzing blood splatter evidence.
Field Experience	For example: 1. Tour a crime lab. 2. Tour a morgue.
Lab	For example: 1. Locate, collect, and package evidence at a simulated burglary crime scene. 2. Photograph items of evidence at a simulated sexual assault crime scene.
Lecture	For example: 1. An interactive lecture about the role of the crime scene investigator. 2. An interactive lecture about DNA evidence.

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	
Discussion	
Lecture	

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	For example: 1. A mid-term exam with multiple-choice and true-false questions. 2. A final exam with short-essay questions.
Essays/Papers	For example: 1. A written crime scene report. 2. A written analysis of fingerprint evidence.
Simulation	For example: 1. A simulated crime scene involving the collection of fingerprint evidence. 2. A simulated crime scene involving the collection of physical evidence.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

For example:

1. Read the chapter regarding blood spatter interpretation. Be prepared to discuss the relationship between the velocity of the spatter and the circumstances of its origin.
2. Read the chapter concerning the responsibilities of the first officer at the crime scene. Be prepared to identify and discuss the preliminary steps that a crime scene investigator should take to ensure that potential evidence is identified and protected.

Writing Assignments

For example:

1. Prepare crime scene notes, providing descriptive detail of physical evidence items, their physical attributes, and the processing and collection methods involved with each item.
2. In a two-page paper describe the process of photographing and evidence collection of latent fingerprints.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Ogle, Robert R., Plotkin, Sharon

Title

Crime Scene Investigation and Reconstruction

Edition/Version

4th

Publisher

Pearson

Year

2018

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Gardner, Ross M., Krouskup, Donna

Title

Practical Crime Scene Processing and Investigation

Edition/Version

2nd

Publisher

Taylor and Francis

Year
2018

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

Course Codes (Admin Only)

CB00 State ID
CCC000632640

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status
N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status
Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status
N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category
Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status
Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass
Yes

Only Pass/No Pass
No