

## Master Syllabus

### CJS 2205 - Introduction to Criminal Investigation & Forensic Science

**Division:** Business and Public Services

**Department:** Criminal Justice Science

**Credit Hour Total:** 3.0

**Lecture Hrs:** 3.0

**Prerequisite(s):** DEV 0035

**Date Revised:** September 2016

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#### Course Description:

Survey of legal, technical and ethical aspects of criminal investigation. Common principles and techniques of criminal investigation, including crime scene procedures, collection and preservation of evidence, development of leads and criminalistics (current terminology for forensics). Skills necessary to investigate crimes and obtain legally admissible evidence. Basic science of physical, chemical and biological evidence.

#### General Education Outcomes:

- Oral Communication Competency
- Written Communication Competency
- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Competency
- Values/Citizenship/Community Competency
- Computer Literacy Competency
- Information Literacy Competency

#### Course Outcomes:

##### Legal, Technical and Ethical Aspects of Criminal Investigation

Apply the legal, ethical and scientific standards for criminal justice professionals working in criminal investigations.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on a department developed exam

**Assessment Method:** Oral examination

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will demonstrate a minimum of two points on a four point department developed rubric

**Assessment Method:** Written surveys and/or questionnaires

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on department developed surveys and questionnaires these questionnaires will be a written crime scenario and the student will in an essay format apply all legal, ethical and scientific standards that apply to the specific case

##### Recognition, Collection and Preservation of Admissible Evidence

Apply the principles and techniques for recognizing, lawfully collecting and preserving crime scene evidence.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on a department developed exam

**Assessment Method:** Oral examination

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of two points on a four point rubric to evaluate student preparation and analytical skills

**Assessment Method:** Written surveys and/or questionnaires

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on department developed surveys and questionnaires. These questionnaires will be a written crime scenario and the student will in an essay format apply all legal, ethical and scientific standards that apply to the specific case

##### Physical, Biological and Chemical Evidence and the Role of the Crime Lab

Explain the basic science of DNA, fingerprints, toolmark, firearms and ballistics, impressions and striations, and other physical, biological and chemical evidence and crime lab capabilities and limitations.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on department developed exams

**Assessment Method:** Oral examination

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of two points on a four point department developed rubric to evaluate student preparation and analytical skills

**Assessment Method:** Written surveys and/or questionnaires

**Performance Criteria:**

Students will score a minimum of 70% on department developed surveys and questionnaires. These questionnaires will be a written crime scenario and the student will in an essay format apply all legal, ethical and scientific standards that apply to the specific case

**Outline:**

Investigative process  
General methods of investigation  
Evidence recognition, collection and preservation including documentation  
Basic science of physical, biological and chemical evidence  
Witness interview and interrogation  
Legal, ethical and scientific guidelines for collection and presentation of evidence  
Crime lab capabilities and limitations