



ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

DIVISION: Natural Science and Business

COURSE: CRJ 1001 Introduction to Forensic Science

Date: November 5, 2018

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite(s): CRJ 1000 or concurrent enrollment

Delivery Method: **Lecture** **3 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
 Seminar **0 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
 Lab **0 Contact Hours** (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)
 Clinical **0 Contact Hours** (3 contact = 1 credit hour)
 Online
 Blended

Offered: **Fall** **Spring** **Summer**

IAI Equivalent –**Only for Transfer Courses**-go to <http://www.itransfer.org>.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the field of forensic science. The categories of criminalistics, criminology, psychiatry, dentistry, handwriting, finger print comparison, toxicology, serology, and other specialties will be used in this course.

GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS ADDRESSED

[See last page for Course Competency/Assessment Methods Matrix.]

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able:

[Choose up to three goals that will be formally assessed in this course.]

- To apply analytical and problem solving skills to personal, social, and professional issues and situations.
- To communicate successfully, both orally and in writing, to a variety of audiences.
- To construct a critical awareness of and appreciate diversity.
- To understand and use technology effectively and to understand its impact on the individual and society.
- To develop interpersonal capacity.
- To recognize what it means to act ethically and responsibly as an individual and as a member of society.
- To recognize what it means to develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle in terms of mind, body, and spirit.
- To connect learning to life.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND RELATED COMPETENCIES:

[Outcomes related to course specific goals. See last page for more information.]

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

Outcome #1: Students will gain an overview of all aspects of forensic science.

Competency 1.1: to identify how various sciences can be applied to the documentation of evidence.

Competency 1.2: discuss forensic evidence and how it can bring a solution to criminal and civil proceedings.

Competency 1.3: discuss the early development of criminal sciences.

Competency 1.4: explain the American development in criminalistics.

Outcome #2: Students will gain an overview of the forensic laboratory.

Competency 2.1: explain the use of physical evidence and scientific science for use in the courtroom.

Competency 2.2: to distinguish the types of physical evidence.

Competency 2.3: discuss the correct documentation and collection of different types of physical evidence.

Competency 2.4: explain the sections of a forensic crime lab and describe each section and their use of identification of evidence.

Outcome #3: Students will be exposed to forensic psychiatry and its application to criminal justice.

Competency 3.1: identify the special training and education needed to achieve the position of criminalist.

Competency 3.2: discuss the special problems involving forensic psychiatry.

Competency 3.3: understand and outline competency to stand trial and the use of the insanity affirmative defense.

Outcome #4: Students will gain an understanding of the use of scientific evidence in court.

Competency 4.1: identify and recognize the difference between types of evidence: testimony, demonstrative, and physical.

Competency 4.2: discuss the various types of forensic experts; including the training and expertise necessary to qualify as an expert.

Competency 4.3: explain and discuss legal medicine and jurisprudence as it related to medical legal issues.

Outcome #5: Students will gain an understanding of forensic pathology.

Competency 5.1: identify and discuss the role of the forensic pathologist.

Competency 5.2: define and discuss the term autopsy, the procedure involved in an autopsy as it relates to pathologist.

Competency 5.3: explain the procedures taken when doing an actual autopsy.

Outcome #6: Students will gain an overview of forensic toxicology and forensic document examination.

Competency 6.1: identify and explain the types of deaths investigated by toxicologists.

Competency 6.2: discuss the procedures and interpretation for a toxicology analysis.

Competency 6.3: identify the steps taken to become a forensic document examiner.

Competency 6.4: discuss the examination process of questioned documents.

Outcome #7: Students will be exposed to blood stain pattern interpretation.

Competency 7.1: discuss the origin(s) of the bloodstains.

Competency 7.2: identify the distances between impact areas of blood spatter and origin at time of bloodshed.

Competency 7.3: recognize the type and direction of impact that produced the bloodstains or spatter.

Competency 7.4: correlate the movement and direction of the victim, the assailant or objects at the scene after the bloodshed.

Outcome #8: Students will gain an overview of serology and DNA typing.

Competency 8.1: identify and discuss the duties of the forensic serologist.

Competency 8.2: explain and discuss the different types of biological substance that can be analyzed as part of the serology examination.

Competency 8.3: have an understanding of DNA profiling.

Competency 8.4: discuss the DNA principles and procedures for crime lab testing.

Outcome #9: Students will be exposed to forensic odontology and forensic anthropology.

Competency 9.1: discuss the practice and procedures of the forensic odontologist.

Competency 9.2: explain when a dental identification is needed and the procedures for identification.

Competency 9.3: understand the scope and workings of the field of forensic anthropology.

Competency 9.4: explain and discuss the facial reconstruction attributes of this technology.

MAPPING LEARNING OUTCOMES TO GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS

[For each of the goals selected above, indicate which outcomes align with the goal.]

Goals	Outcomes
First Goal	
To apply analytical and problem solving skills to personal, social, and professional issues and situations.	To identify how various sciences can be applied to the documentation of evidence.
Second Goal	
To communicate successfully, both orally and in writing, to a variety of audiences.	Discuss forensic evidence and how it can bring a solution to criminal and civil proceedings.
Third Goal	
To recognize what it means to act ethically and responsibly as an individual and as a member of society.	Explain and discuss legal medicine and jurisprudence as it relates to medical legal issues.

COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

Historical development of Forensic Science
 The role of the forensic laboratory
 Forensic Psychiatry
 Scientific evidence in court
 Legal medicine and jurisprudence
 Bloodstain pattern interpretation
 Serology and DNA typing
 Forensic odontology
 Scope of forensic anthropology

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Assigned reading
 Lecture Case studies
 Current events
 Classroom discussion
 Collaborative group activities
 Audio-visual presentations
 Student competencies

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Textbook: Saferstein, R. (2018). Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science. Pearson.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHODS OF EVALUATION:

A= 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

D= 60-69

F= 0-59

Class participation

Examinations/quizzes

Written assignments as determined by instructor

Oral presentations as determined by instructor

OTHER REFERENCES:

Scholarly academic journal reading assignments in addition to text.

Various educational videos as provided by instructor

Case analysis with past and current cases as they arise

