

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES  
SYLLABUS**

**FACULTY MEMBER:**

**TERM:**

**COURSE TITLE:** Criminalistics

**COURSE NUMBER:** CRJ1J1



- C-4 Review the proper evidence collection methods for paint, petroleum products, plastic, rubber, residues and chemicals.
- C-5 Review the proper evidence collection methods for human body parts.
- C-6 Describe the process of making comparisons for determination of common origin.
- C-7 Describe the process of identification in the attempt to make an absolute determination of a substance.

**GOAL D:** The student will develop an understanding of the importance of determining the chemical and physical properties of an item of evidence.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will

- D-1 Discuss the physical properties of temperature, weight and mass, density, and refraction.
- D-2 Apply the knowledge of physical properties to glass and soil samples.
- D-3 Review organic analysis and the methodologies used in the various examinations.
- D-4 Review inorganic analysis and the methodologies used in the various examinations.
- D-5 Review the use of the microscope in the examination of evidence.
- D-6 Discuss the variety of measurements that are used in the examination of evidence.

**GOAL E:** Students will develop an understanding and appreciation for the specific guides the physical evidence collection as used by police crime laboratories.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- E-1 Review the Guides for the Collection of Physical Evidence as used by the FBI laboratory at Quantico, VA.
- E-2 Review the policy guidelines for submitting DNA evidence to the FBI laboratory at Quantico, VA.
- E-3 Discuss the suggested chemical formulas for latent fingerprint development.
- E-4 Discuss the procedures for the development of footwear impressions.



**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- H-1 Discuss the important guidelines for the collection of known writings for comparison to a questioned document.
- H-2 Identify the techniques document examiners use to uncover alterations, erasures, obliterations, and variations in pen inks.
- H-3 List and describe the hardware and software components of a computer
- H-4 Describe the proper procedure for preserving computer evidence at a crime scene.
- H-5 Understand the difference between read-only memory and random access memory and the location of visible and latent data.
- H-6 Describe how e-mails, chat, and instant messages on the Internet can be traced and recovered and describe three locations where investigators can pinpoint the origin of a hacker

**GOAL I:** Students will demonstrate appropriate writing and presentation skills.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- I-1. Prepare written reports using APA style.

**METHODOLOGY:**

**A. Teaching Methods:** This course will be conducted entirely on-line and will require significant participation from students through discussion boards. PowerPoint notes, film, video clip, audio clip of guest lecturers may also be utilized. Students will complete assigned readings and respond as instructed. Students will also conduct independent research and report their findings in an APA style paper.

**B. Evaluation Procedures:**

**All assignments will be graded using a 100-point scale and the following weighted total structure:**

CHAPTER READING/RESPONSES	25%
WEEKLY REFLECTIONS	15%

RESEARCH TOPIC SUBMISSION	5%
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## ASSIGNMENTS:

**TEXT CHAPTER READING/RESPONSE** Each week students will be assigned reading from the required text. Upon completing the assigned reading, the student will respond in writing to identified questions posed from the text.

**CASE LAW/LEGAL RESEARCH** Students will be required to conduct legal research of established case law related to crime scene investigation, and expert testimony and the admissibility of forensic analyses, comparisons, and examinations, and report the facts of the case and ultimate rulings of the United States Supreme Court, and the impact the rulings have on the examination and admissibility of crime scene evidence and testimony.

**CRIME SCENE ANALYSIS** Students will be presented with a criminal investigation/crime scene and a discussion of the investigation and evidence discovered. The student must identify the evidence and the forensic examination used by law enforcement, prosecutors, the defense to investigate, prosecute, and defend the defendant.

## REFLECTIONS/FLECTION

Posts, whether original or response, must be academic, meaningful and thoughtful. Original posts that simply make a statement without supporting facts will not suffice. Responsive posts must also be academic, meaningful and thoughtful. Posts respectful. As in classroom discussions, full sentences must be used and no inappropriate language is permitted. However, posts that challenge others or respectfully disagree with other students are highly encouraged!