

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

- A. Department Information
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| Division: | Criminal Justice |
| Department: | Police Science |
| Course Number: | CRMJUS 087 |
| Course Title: | Intermediate Crime Scene Investigation |
| Prerequisite: | Basic Crime Scene Investigation |
| Lecture: | 24 Hours |
| Lab: | 24 Hours |
| Units: | 2.0 Per semester |
- B. Catalog and Schedule Description:
This course is designed to be an intermediate level course for those persons considering a career in Forensic Sciences or Criminalistics. Lecture topics include reviewing the critical components of the Basic CSI class, identification and collection of evidence at violent crime scenes, processing evidence and crime scenes for latent prints using advanced techniques, intermediate crime scene photography, documentation of the crime scene and the examinations performed, a discussion of common mistakes and how to avoid making them and courtroom presentation and testimony.

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOME FOR STUDENTS:

Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to:

- A. Recognize items with evidentiary value.
- B. Know the basic operations of various hi-tech collection equipment such as electro-static dust-lifters and trace evidence vacuums.
- C. Properly collect and package different types of evidence.
- D. Use advanced latent processing techniques to locate and collect latent fingerprints.
- E. Understand advanced operations of a 35mm camera.
- F. Use advanced photography skills to overcome difficult scene photography such as darkness or extremely large crime scenes.
- G. Create a detailed "to scale" crime scene sketch.
- H. Use detailed notes to document crime scene processing.
- I. Write clear, grammatically correct, professional crime scene report.
- J. Understand the concepts of "Educating the Jury".
- K. Be able to create professional courtroom displays and demonstrations.
- L. Testify in court in a professional manner about their procedures.

IV. CONTENT:

- A. Health and Safety
 - 1. Biological hazards
 - a) Review of basic class
 - b) Blood borne pathogens
 - 2. Structural hazards
 - a) Review of basics
 - b) Arson damage
 - 3. Natural hazards – review
 - 4. Human hazards
 - a) Review of basics
 - b) Angry relatives

- B. Note taking
 - 1. Review of basics
 - 2. Placard log
 - a) Becomes on-going list
 - b) Add descriptions as you collect
 - c) Add collection times
- C. Evidence collection
 - 1. Review of basics
 - 2. Biological evidence – non-blood
 - a) Identifying
 - b) Value
 - c) Collection
 - d) Packaging
 - 3. Firearms review
 - 4. Gunshot Residue
 - a) Collection from hands
 - b) Collection from other surfaces
 - c) AA & SEM kits
 - 5. Specialty equipment
 - a) Trace vacuum
 - b) Hi-intensity lights
 - c) Metal detector
- D. Sketching - review
- E. Impression evidence
 - 1. Electro-static dust-lifter
 - 2. Plaster casting
 - 3. Inked comparison standards
 - a) Shoes
 - b) Tires
- F. Latent processing
 - 1. Basic review
 - 2. Forensic light sources
 - a) ALS
 - b) UV
 - 3. Dye stains
 - a) Uses and limitations
 - b) Photography
 - c) Filters
 - 4. Rhodamine 6G
 - 5. Fluorescent powders
 - a) Uses and limitations
 - b) Tape lifts
 - c) Photography
 - d) Filters
 - 6. Redwop powder
 - 7. Small particle reagent
 - a) Uses and limitations
 - b) Tape lifts
 - c) Photography
 - 8. Crime scene processing
 - a) Documenting large areas
 - b) Photography
- G. Photography
 - 1. Review
 - 2. Overcoming darkness

- a) Painting with Light
 - b) Time exposures
 - 3. 1:1 Photography
 - 4. Videotape
 - 5. Testimony
- H. Fluorescein procedures
 - 1. Search for blood
 - 2. Photography
 - 3. Videotaping
 - 4. Value of evidence
- I. Gunshot trajectory
 - 1. Documentation
 - 2. Angle determination
 - 3. Direction of travel
 - 4. Sequence
 - 5. Photography
- J. Arson scenes
 - 1. Documentation
 - 2. Photography
 - 3. Evidence collection
- K. Crimes Against Children
 - 1. Coping emotionally
 - 2. Interacting with kids
 - 3. Patterned bruises
 - 4. Photographing injuries
 - 5. SIDs or Homicide?
- L. Chain of custody
- M. Computer Face Reconstruction (FACES)
- N. Report Writing (review)

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Visual presentations
- D. Demonstration
- E. Hands-on exercises
- F. Practical exercises

VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Reading
- B. Class and Group Discussions of Significant Issues and Topics
- C. Outside photography assignments
- D. Hands-on exercises, such as:
 - 1. Processing items for latent fingerprints
 - 2. Packaging evidence items
 - 3. Proper collection of evidence items
 - 4. Mock crime scene processing
 - 5. Report writing
 - 6. Create court displays / demonstrations

VII. EVALUATIONS:

- A. Methods of Evaluation
 - 1. Feedback/Discussions
 - 2. Practical exercises after each subject taught
 - 3. Midterm examination, multiple choice and true/false

4. Final examination, multiple choice and true/false
 5. Final examination, mock crime scene
 6. Final examination, mock court
- B. Frequency of Evaluation
1. Feedback and discussion throughout course as deemed necessary
 2. Practical exercises after each subject is taught
 3. Examinations as outlined above
- C. Typical Exam Questions:
1. When photographing arson scenes you should
 - a) Open the aperture one stop
 - b) Open the aperture two stops
 - c) Close the aperture two stops
 - d) Leave the camera on full program
 2. Electro-static dust lifts last forever
 - a) True
 - b) False

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):

Current text(s) and/or handouts provided by instructor as approved by P.O.S.T. and San Bernardino Valley College.

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED BY STUDENTS:

Adjustable 35mm camera with detachable flash
Items to fingerprint (commonly found around the household)