

Criminalistics III (CJSA 2332)

Credit: 3 semester credit hours (2 hours lecture, 4 hours lab)



Prerequisite/Co-requisite: None.

Course Description

A study of the practical aspects of criminalistics procedures. Topics include crime scene investigation, collecting and preserving evidence, and testifying in court.

Required Textbook and Materials

1. None

Recommended Textbook and Materials

1. Forensic Science Today by Dr. Henry C. Lee and George M. Taft (2nd Edition)
Lawyers and Judges Publishing Company, Inc. Tucson, Arizona
 - a. ISBN: 9781933264875

Course Objectives

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

1. Conduct a crime scene investigation under simulated circumstances
2. Demonstrate proper methods of identifying, collecting, preserving evidence for crime laboratory analysis
3. Demonstrate proper courtroom demeanor and methods of testifying.

Course Outline

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>A. Welcome to the Class</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction of faculty and students2. Who am I?3. What am I doing here? <p>B. LIT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Policies2. Academic calendar3. Physical facilities (Lab) <p>C. Library Resources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Location2. Data searches3. Locating print material (HV Stacks) <p>D. Course Description of CJSA 2332</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Laboratory Log2. The Use of A/V Documentary Resources3. Legal Aspects of Crime Scene Search4. Preparing a Crime Scene Investigation<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Determine the Search Method | <p>b. Recommended Tools and Equipment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Samples of Evidence Collection Kits6. Approaching/Conducting a preliminary investigation7. Sketching and Photographing8. Fingerprinting<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Traditional Inking Techniqueb. Live Scan FP <p>E. Identification, Collection, and Preservation of Evidence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. DNA Evidence2. Saliva, Liquid and Hair Evidence3. DNA on Clothing, Weapons and structures <p>F. Specific Crime Scene Searches</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Burglary Scene2. Robbery Scene3. Physical Assault4. Sexual Assault |
|--|---|

Approved 10/2020

CJSA 2332

Course Syllabus

- 5. Homicide Scene
- 6. Investigating alleged poisoning
- G. The Simulated Crime Scene
- H. Computer and Other Electronic Evidence
- I. Glossary of Criminal Justice Terms
- J. Crime Scene Safety
- K. Crime Scene Investigator Field Notes
 - 1. Case Number
 - 2. The Field Notes
 - 3. Persons Involved
- 4. Description of Deceased
- 5. Hanging Deaths
- 6. Firearms
- 7. Officer Involved Shootings
- 8. Vehicles
- 9. Additional Notes / Legend / Log
- 10. Crime Scene Check List
- L. Preliminary Investigatory Procedures
- M. Professional Courtroom and Demeanor

Grade Scale

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

Course Evaluation

Final grades calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Tests	10%
2. Participation/Attendance	10%
3. Assignments	30%
4. Crime Scene Project(s)	50%

Course Policies

1. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Computers, telephones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class or used only with permission of the instructor.
3. Do not bring children to class.
4. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
5. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

Technical Requirements

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at:

https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support/Browser_Checker A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for

CJSA 2332
Course Syllabus

persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building. You may also visit the online resource at <https://www.lit.edu/student-success/special-populations>

Student Code of Conduct Statement

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu or obtained in print upon request at the Student Services Office. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document

Starfish

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

