

**CJSA 2332 1A1**  
Criminalistics III



**LAMAR INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY**

**INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor: **Dennis White**

Email: **dwhite@lit.edu**

Office Phone: **409-247-5277**

Office Location: Technology Center Building Room 214

Office Hours: **By Appointment**

MONDAY: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm; 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

TUESDAY: 9:00 am – 9:30 am

WEDNESDAY: 9:00 am – 11:00 am

THURSDAY: 9:00 am – 9:30 am

FRIDAY: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

**CREDIT**

**3** Semester Credit Hours (**3** hours lecture, **0** hours lab)

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

**Face to Face**

**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.

**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.

## RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Forensic Science Today by Dr. Henry C. Lee and George M. Taft (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
Lawyers and Judges Publishing Company, Inc. Tucson, Arizona

1. ISBN: 9781933264875

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade

## DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

## STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

## COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
1	Introduction/Orientation	September 14, 2023	September 14, 2023
2	Digital & Ink Fingerprinting	September 14, 2023	September 14, 2023
3	Photography & Lighting	September 14, 2023	September 14, 2023
4	Latent Prints	September 14, 2023	September 14, 2023
5	Latent Prints	October 12, 2023	October 12, 2023
6	Latent Prints	October 12, 2023	October 12, 2023
7	Latent Prints	October 12, 2023	October 12, 2023
8	Wet Evidence, Arson, Firearms	October 12, 2023	October 12, 2023
9	Searches, Sketches, Reports, Testimony	November 14, 2023	November 14, 2023
10	Crime Scene #1	November 14, 2023	November 14, 2023
11	Crime Scene #2	November 14, 2023	November 14, 2023

12	Crime Scene #3	November 14, 2023	November 14, 2023
13	Crime Scene #4	November 30, 2023	November 30, 2023
14	Holiday	November 30, 2023	November 30, 2023
15	Testimony/Wrap up– JOURNALS DUE	November 30, 2023	November 30, 2023
15	Testimony/Wrap up– JOURNALS DUE	November 30, 2023	November 30, 2023
16	Final Exam		December 5, 2023

### **COURSE EVALUATION**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

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

### **GRADE SCALE**

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

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

### **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

### **DISABILITIES STATEMENT**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with

disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email [specialpopulations@lit.edu](mailto:specialpopulations@lit.edu). You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

### **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](http://www.lit.edu). 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.

### **ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION**

1. Proper classroom decorum must always be maintained.
2. No DISRUPTIONS will be tolerated, and, in this classroom, we will respect one another's right to learn.
3. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
4. Cell phones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
5. Do not bring children to class.
6. Do not walk out of class early without talking to me before the class begins.
7. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL BE DEALT WITH MOST STRICTLY! - An automatic F for the semester, plus a report will be filed.
8. Makeup exams will not be given, unless arranged for in advance. If you miss an exam (including the final) for any reason, without making arrangements with me prior to the exam, you will receive a zero on that exam. All exams will be taken on Blackboard.

9. 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.
10. Attendance is expected and required. Participation/Attendance – Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.
11. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.