

Fall 2013

F 1330 - 1420

120 Wesselkamper Science Center

**INSTRUCTOR**

David O. Carter, PhD

Director and Associate Professor of Forensic Sciences

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**FS 190 Introduction to Forensic Sciences Seminar (1)**

A seminar series designed to present an overview of different areas of the Forensic Sciences. Areas to be covered include: Anthropology, Crime Scene Investigation, Criminalistics, Engineering, Ethics, Jurisprudence, Pathology, Toxicology, Questioned Documents, and related topics. Offered Spring and Fall Semester. Required of Forensic Sciences majors. No prerequisite.

**MEASURABLE LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Forensic science is natural sciences branch of the justice system. While the forensic sciences are used to resolve civil, criminal and regulatory matters, this course will provide an introduction to the use of natural science in the criminal justice system. Each student will finish this class with the ability to:

- Discuss the importance of quality assurance, including ethics, in forensic science
- Discuss the diversity of disciplines that comprise forensic science
- Describe the relationships between the different forensic science disciplines
- Investigate research and employment opportunities in the forensic sciences

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

You are not required to purchase a textbook. Reading material will be provided.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	30 Aug	Introduction and Syllabus Review	Ownership Assignment Delivered
2	6 Sep	Criminal Justice and Forensic Science	Ownership Assignment Due
3	13 Sep	Ethics & Professional Practice in Forensic Science	
4	20 Sep	First Responder & Crime Scene Investigation	
5	27 Sep	Medicolegal Death Investigation & the Morgue	
6	4 Oct	Forensic Anthropology	
7	11 Oct	Friction Ridge Patterns	Nicholas Harrison, MS
8	18 Oct	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis	Wilson Sullivan, MA
9	25 Oct	The Crime Laboratory	
10	1 Nov	Forensic Biology	Dr. Joan Kuh, PhD
11	8 Nov	Forensic Chemistry	
12	15 Nov	Trace Evidence	Dr. Dale Purcell, PhD
13	22 Nov	Careers in Forensic Science	
14	29 Nov	<b>No Class</b>	Thanksgiving
15	6 Dec	Current Issues in Forensic Science	
16	13 Dec	<b>No Class</b>	Finals Week

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

Your grade in this class is based on attendance and two writing assignments. An attendance sheet will be provided at the beginning of each class. You will earn 10 points for each class that you sign into. For example, signing in to 9 lectures will earn you 90 points.

You are also required to complete an Ownership Agreement that is designed to encourage you to think about your future and the reason why you are pursuing a career in forensic science. You are required to complete one Ownership Agreement worth 100 points.

***Grading Scale***

Assignment	Points Possible	Times	Total Points
Ownership Agreement	100	1	100
Attendance	10	14	140
			<b>240</b>

***Letter Grades***

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

**OFFICE HOURS**

My Office Hours are a time of open door access to my office. I will be in my office during these hours and you are free to meet with me without an appointment. However, office hours are first come, first served. So, you might have to wait if someone is already meeting with me.

If my office hours do not complement your schedule then please feel free to set up an appointment with me. I am happy to meet outside of Office Hours. To schedule a meeting you must follow this protocol:

1. Email me at [david.carter@chaminade.edu](mailto:david.carter@chaminade.edu) stating the dates and times that you are available to meet.
2. I will select the first available time that works with my schedule.

Meeting requests lacking the dates and times that you are available to meet will be deleted without response.

**REMINDERS OF IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY-WIDE POLICIES**

The following policies are summarized from the Student Handbook. Please be sure that you have reviewed these and the other policies that your Handbook contains.

***Attendance***

You will be treated as a forensic science professional employed at a forensic science agency. This means that you are expected to attend and participate in every class period. Like a professional, you must contact the instructor if you know that you will miss a future class. Absences can be excused for medical treatment and legal issues. Some personal issues can be excused, but that decision is completely at the discretion of the instructor. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible if you have missed class and were unable to communicate before the absence.

***Academic Dishonesty***

All confirmed academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the class.

**ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (2008), Chaminade University of Honolulu offers accommodations for individuals with disabilities. If you would like to determine if you qualify for ADA accommodations, please contact the Counseling Center at (808) 735-4845. Once your documentation is submitted, the assessments will be reviewed and the student will be notified.

If one qualifies for ADA accommodations an ADA contract will be signed by the student. Please remember that once you have signed an ADA agreement, you need to contact the ADA coordinator each semester (including summer sessions) to identify which instructors you want notified of your accommodations. This is to ensure your privacy. Faculty will be informed of the accommodations you are to receive but not the nature of your disability.

From the time that appropriate documentation is received by the ADA Coordinator, please allow 2 to 3 weeks to process your paperwork. Processing time may vary pending the volume of requests received. You can find more information at [http://www.chaminade.edu/student\\_life/sss/counseling\\_services.php](http://www.chaminade.edu/student_life/sss/counseling_services.php)