

**Crime Scene Investigation**  
**FS 340/540**  
**Spring 2014**

**Instructor:** Nick Harrison  
**Contact:** nicholas.harrison@chaminade.edu  
**Office:** Henry Hall 3  
**Office Hours:** MWF 0900-1000, TTh 0900-1030, or by appointment

**Time:** 1030-1120  
**Days:** MWF  
**Room:** Henry 223

This is an undergraduate/graduate-level course designed to encompass all aspects of crime scene investigation. It must be taken concurrently with FS 340L/540L, the Crime Scene Investigation Laboratory course. Prerequisites: EN 102, COM 101, BI 203/L or BI 205/L, BI 204/L or BI 206/L, FS 330 or CJ 220, FS 333L or consent of instructor.

**OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course and the accompanying laboratory, students will be able to:

1. Approach a crime scene safely and methodically
2. Recognize, collect, and preserve different types of evidence
3. Document crime scenes completely and accurately
4. Understand the entire sequence of protocols involved in an investigation, from entry to the crime scene until the case is completed

**TEXT:**

Gardner, RM. Practical crime scene processing and investigation. 2nd ed. Boca Raton: CRC Press; 2012. 498 p.  
ISBN: 9781439853023

This book is required for the course and reading it is your responsibility. Material from this text will be used for both lecture examination and laboratory purposes.

Optional Text:

Sullivan, WT. Crime scene analysis: practical procedures and techniques. Upper Saddle River: Pearson Prentice Hall; 2007. 327 p.  
ISBN: 0-13-119131-4

**ATTENDANCE:**

Students are expected to be in class and to be on time. Repeated absences will be reported to counseling and will result in possible removal from the course, as per the Chaminade Student Handbook.

\*\*\*Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion\*\*\*

## **CELL PHONES AND MUSIC DEVICES:**

Unless specifically permitted by your instructor, use of cell phones and music devices is prohibited during all Natural Science and Mathematics classes at Chaminade, as it is discourteous and may lead to suspicion of academic misconduct. I would ask that cell phones be either turned off or put on silent mode while in the classroom. I am not necessarily opposed to you periodically checking your phone as long as it is not disruptive to your fellow classmates or me. If it becomes disruptive, I will ask you to turn off your phone. Students unable to comply with the instructor's requests will be asked to leave class. Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during examinations.

## **ADA ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Students with special needs who meet the criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from CUH Counseling Center (Dr. June Yasuhara, 735-4845) by the end of the third week of classes. Failure to provide written documentation will prevent your instructor from making necessary accommodations. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Students and review procedures at [www.chaminade.edu/student\\_life/sss/counseling\\_services.php](http://www.chaminade.edu/student_life/sss/counseling_services.php)

## **COMPUTERS:**

The use of computers in this class is encouraged, provided they are used for the class. Doing other things on the computer such as other class work or surfing the internet is not acceptable.

## **GRADING:**

Final grades for the lecture course will be determined as follows:

Midterm Exam #1: 60 points

Midterm Exam #2: 65 points

Final Exam: 65 points

## **GRADING SCALE:**

90 - 100% A

80 - <90% B

70 - <80% C

60 - <70% D

<60% F

Numerical grades containing decimal points **will not** be rounded up during the conversion to letter grades.

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## **SCHEDULE:**

- Jan 13: Course Introduction & Syllabus
- Jan 15: Introduction [Chapter 1]
- Jan 17: The Nature of Physical Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 2]
- Jan 20: **NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)**
- Jan 22: The Nature of Physical Evidence (Part 2)
- Jan 24: First Responders & (Specialized) Personnel [Chapter 3]
- Jan 27: Assessing and Searching the Scene [Chapter 5]
- Jan 29: Initial Observations and Notes [Chapter 8, page 223-228]
- Jan 31: Processing Methodology [Chapter 4]
- Feb 3: Sketches (Part 1) [Chapter 7]
- Feb 5: Sketches (Part 2)
- Feb 7: **MIDTERM EXAM #1 [Chapters 1-5]**
- Feb 10: Photography (Part 1) [Chapter 6, page 135-155 & 172-181]
- Feb 12: Photography (Part 2)
- Feb 14: Photography (Part 3)
- Feb 17: **NO CLASS (Presidents' Day)**
- Feb 19: Photography (hands-on, no lecture)
- Feb 21: Light Technology [Chapter 9, page 239-253]
- Feb 24: Fingerprints (Part 1) [Chapter 9, page 254-278]
- Feb 26: Fingerprints (Part 2)
- Feb 28: Fingerprints (Part 3)

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- Mar 3: Fingerprints (Part 4)
- Mar 5: ABIS Demonstration
- Mar 7: Impression Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 9, page 278-298]
- Mar 10: Impression Evidence (Part 2)
- Mar 12: Firearms Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 2, page 44-50; Handout]
- Mar 14: Firearms Evidence (Part 2)
- Mar 17: Shooting Scene Documentation and Reconstruction [Chapter 10]
- Mar 19: Crime Scene Reports [Chapter 8 page 228-237]
- Mar 21: Review
- Mar 24: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**
- Mar 26: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess, Prince Kuhio Day)**
- Mar 28: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**
- Mar 31: Review
- Apr 2: **MIDTERM EXAM #2 [Chapters 6-10]**
- Apr 4: Biological Evidence [Chapter 2, pg. 30-37]
- Apr 7: [Video - 48 Hours: Hollywood Secrets](#)
- Apr 9: Bloodstain Pattern Analysis [Chapter 11]
- Apr 11: Bloodstain Pattern Documentation [Chapter 6, pg. 156-172]
- Apr 14: The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 1) [Chapter 12]
- Apr 16: The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 2)
- Apr 18: **NO CLASS (Good Friday)**
- Apr 21: Fire Scenes [Chapter 13, page 383-394]

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- Apr 23: Buried and Scattered Remains [Chapter 13, page 394-406]
- Apr 25: Entomological Evidence [Chapter 13, page 407-408]
- Apr 28: Crime Scene Analysis and Reconstruction [Chapter 14]
- Apr 30: Legal Considerations [Handout]
- May 2: Review
- May 8: **FINAL EXAM**

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