

**Fingerprint Analysis Laboratory**  
**FS 642L**  
**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:** 1430-1720  
**Days:** Th  
**Room:** Henry Lab 5

This is a graduate-level laboratory course designed to give students hands-on experience in the development and comparison of fingerprints. It must be taken concurrently with FS 642, the Fingerprint Analysis lecture course. Prerequisites: BI 203, BI 204.

**OBJECTIVES:**

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

1. Understand the origin and makeup of fingerprints
2. Obtain known prints from living and deceased persons
3. Visualize and recover latent prints using both physical and chemical methods
4. Properly document latent fingerprints and subsequent comparisons
5. Conduct latent print comparisons
6. Operate an Automated Fingerprint Identification System
7. Produce demonstrative exhibits for court

**TEXT:**

Scientific Working Group on Friction Ridge Analysis, Study and Technology (SWGFAST) et al. The fingerprint sourcebook [Internet]. Washington (DC): National Institute of Justice; 2011 [cited 2014 Jan 11]. Available from

<http://www.nij.gov/publications/pages/publication-detail.aspx?ncjnumber=225320>

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ISBN-13: 978-1477664766

**ATTENDANCE:**

Since you will be submitting assignments at the end of some laboratory sessions for credit towards your final grade, attending class is highly advised. No points will be awarded for unsubmitted assignments, obviously, and you will not be able to complete the assignments if you are not in class. Under extenuating/emergency circumstances, absences may be excused if documentation is provided or if approved prior to the class period. In such cases, I will do my best to accommodate alternate arrangements for completing assignments, but I can make NO GUARANTEES. Repeated absences will be reported to counseling and will result in possible

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removal from the course as per the CUH Student Handbook.

**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:**

Students will be graded on laboratory exercises and a practical exam, which will consist of latent print processing, ABIS searches, latent print comparisons, reports, and a courtroom display.

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

Laboratory Exercises: 25%  
Practical Exam: 75%

**GRADING SCALE:**

90 - 100% A  
80 - <90% B  
70 - <80% C  
60 - <70% D  
<60% F

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

**SCHEDULE:**

- Jan 16: Course Introduction & Syllabus  
Documentary: Nova - "Forensics on Trial"  
(<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/tech/forensics-on-trial.html>)
- Jan 23: Latent Print Processing (Non-porous Substrates)
- Jan 30: Latent Print Processing (Porous Substrates)
- Feb 6: Latent Print Processing (ALS), Recording Exemplar Fingerprints
- Feb 13: Assignment #1 - Fingerprint Classification (Henry and NCIC)
- Feb 20: Assignment #2 - Comparison Exercise 1
- Feb 27: Assignment #3 - Comparison Exercise 2
- Mar 6: Assignment #4 - Comparison Exercise 3
- Mar 13: Assignment #5- Palm Print Orientation Exercise
- Mar 20: CTS Proficiency Test
- Mar 27: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**
- Apr 3: Practical Examination
- Apr 10: Practical Examination
- Apr 17: Practical Examination
- Apr 24: Practical Examination
- May 1: Practical Examination
- May 2: **DUE: FINAL PRODUCT OF PRACTICAL EXAMINATION**

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