

Crime Scene Investigation
FS 340
Spring 2017

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 210

This is an undergraduate-level course designed to encompass all aspects of crime scene investigation. It must be taken concurrently with FS 340L, the Crime Scene Investigation Laboratory course. Prerequisites: FS 333 or FS 333L.

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 physical 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

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 totaled using the following weighting:

Midterm Exam #1: 30%

Midterm Exam #2: 35%

Final Exam: 35%

GRADING SCALE:

90 - 100% A

80 - <90% B

70 - <80% C

60 - <70% D

<60% F

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

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

SCHEDULE:

- Jan 18: Course Introduction & Syllabus
- Jan 20: Introduction [Chapter 1]
- Jan 23: The Nature of Physical Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 2]
- Jan 25: The Nature of Physical Evidence (Part 2)
- Jan 27: First Responders & (Specialized) Personnel [Chapter 3]
- Jan 30: Assessing and Searching the Scene [Chapter 5]
- Feb 1: Initial Observations and Notes [Chapter 8, page 223-228]
- Feb 3: Processing Methodology [Chapter 4]
- Feb 6: Sketches (Part 1) [Chapter 7]
- Feb 8: Sketches (Part 2), Review
- Feb 10: **MIDTERM EXAM #1 [Chapters 1-5]**
- Feb 13: Photography (Part 1) [Chapter 6, page 135-155 & 172-181]
- Feb 15: Photography (Part 2)
- Feb 17: Photography (Part 3)
- Feb 20: **NO CLASS (Presidents' Day)**
- Feb 22: "Hands-on" Photography Practice (no formal lecture)
- Feb 24: Light Technology [Chapter 9, page 239-253]
- Feb 27: Fingerprints (Part 1) [Chapter 9, page 254-278]
- Mar 1: Fingerprints (Part 2)
- Mar 3: Fingerprints (Part 3)

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

Mar 6: Fingerprints (Part 4)

Mar 8: ABIS Demonstration

Mar 10: Impression Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 9, page 278-298]

Mar 13: Impression Evidence (Part 2)

Mar 15: Firearms Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 2, page 44-50; Handout]

Mar 17: Firearms Evidence (Part 2)

Mar 20: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**

Mar 22: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**

Mar 24: **NO CLASS (Spring Recess)**

Mar 27: **NO CLASS (Prince Kuhio Day)**

Mar 29: Shooting Scene Documentation and Reconstruction [Chapter 10]

Mar 31: Crime Scene Reports [Chapter 8 page 228-237], Review

Apr 3: **MIDTERM EXAM #2 [Chapters 6-10]**

Apr 5: [Video - 48 Hours: Hollywood Secrets](#)

Apr 7: Biological Evidence [Chapter 2, pg. 30-37; Chapter 11, pg. 353-358]

Apr 10: Bloodstain Pattern Analysis [Chapter 11]

Apr 12: Bloodstain Pattern Documentation [Chapter 6, pg. 156-172]

Apr 14: **NO CLASS (Good Friday)**

Apr 17: The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 1) [Chapter 12]

Apr 19: The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 2)

Apr 21: Fire Scenes [Chapter 13, page 383-394]

Apr 24: Buried and Scattered Remains [Chapter 13, page 394-406]

Apr 26: Entomological Evidence [Chapter 13, page 407-408]

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

- Apr 28: [Video - RCMP Training Unit: Forensic Entomology](#)
- May 1: Crime Scene Analysis and Reconstruction [Chapter 14]
- May 3: Legal Considerations [Handout], Review
- May 5: Review
- May 11: **FINAL EXAM [Chapters 11-14]:** 1100-1300 hrs

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion