

INSTRUCTOR

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Office: 2 Henry Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00PM – 4:00PM,
Friday 9:00AM – 11:00AM or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

FS 430L Forensic Chemistry Laboratory (1)

Laboratory exercises will concentrate on techniques and forensic methodologies for qualitative and quantitative analysis of chemical evidence. *Concurrent registration in FS 430 required. Prerequisites: CH 324/L, CH 334/L.*

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this class students will understand the role of a forensic chemist in the judicial system and demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply quality control processes necessary in a forensic laboratory
- Use basic laboratory skills and procedures needed for work in a forensic laboratory
- Solve problems using independent, critical thinking
- Interpret the results of chemical testing
- Defend the quality of their work in an expert witness scenario

REQUIRED TEXT

Bell S (2013) Forensic Chemistry. 2nd Edition. Pearson: Boston, MA.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE*Professional Conduct Evaluation (PCE)*

You will be evaluated on your professional conduct in laboratory sessions including preparedness, safety, punctuality, collegiality, teamwork and focus. Evaluations may be distributed throughout the semester that will also count towards this component.

Presentation Workshop

Students will prepare speaking exercises throughout the presentation workshops and be required to provide feedback for other students.

Case Files

Each assigned case will require a folder be submitted that includes your case report, case forms, scientist notes, and assigned questions.

Lab Final

Each student will be required to present and defend their work on one of the laboratory modules.

Activity	Weight
PCE	10%
Speaking Exercise	10%
Case Files	50%
Lab Final	30%

The grading scale is:

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

TENTATIVE TIMELINE (Subject to change, changes announced on Canvas)

Week	Date	Subject	Notes
1	31 Aug	Introduction/Lab Safety	
2	7 Sept	Fiber microscopy	
3	14 Sept	Fiber microscopy	
4	21 Sept	Presentation Workshop	FM case due
5	28 Sept	Presentation Workshop	Speaking Exercise
6	5 Oct	Fire debris analysis	
7	12 Oct	Fire debris analysis	
8	19 Oct	Drug search	FD case due
9	26 Oct	Drug analysis	
10	2 Nov	TBA	DA case due
11	9 Nov	Inks & Dyes	
12	16 Nov	Inks & Dyes	I&D case due Nov 17
13	23 Nov	No Lab – Thanksgiving	
14	30 Nov	Field Trip	
15	7 Dec	Lab Final	
Finals	11 Dec	No lab	

****Labs are subject to change due to availability of materials and instrumentation. Please check Canvas regularly for any updates.**

ADDITIONAL POLICES*Academic Integrity*

You are required to sign and follow the Forensic Sciences Code of Conduct. Violation of the Code of Conduct will result in a hearing in front of the Forensic Sciences Ethics Committee. In addition, students are expected to read and abide by the Student Rules of Conduct which are available in your copy of the Student Handbook. Cheating in the form of plagiarism, collusion, deception and will not be tolerated.

Absences

Each unexcused absence will result in:

- 0 points for Professional Conduct Evaluation
- 0 points for any associated in-class assessments

Unexcused absences for two consecutive weeks may result in being withdrawn from the course by the instructor.

A planned, excused absence must be communicated to the instructor at least one week prior to the laboratory. Necessary arrangements will be made to meet student learning objectives.

An unplanned, excused absence must be communicated to the instructor within one week of the missed laboratory. Necessary arrangements will be made to meet student learning objectives.

Determination of valid excuses for missed classes is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Laboratory Safety Information

The following guidelines are established to provide instructions in maintaining safety for students, staff, and faculty while using any of the science laboratories at Chaminade University. Students are required to sign a safety contract. In addition to adhering to the safety contract, students are required to follow these two rules:

1. Lab coats, closed-toed shoes, and goggles are required at all times within the laboratory.
2. The maintenance of your personal protective equipment (PPE) is your responsibility. Please inform us immediately if you have issues with your PPE.

The Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NSM), along with the University Environmental Safety Office are responsible for enforcing the regulations set forth in the current Student Handbook. Queries should be addressed to: Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (808) 440-4204; Environmental Safety Officer (808) 739-4811

ADAA Statement

Pursuant to several federal and state laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all qualified students with disabilities are protected from discrimination on basis of disability and are eligible for reasonable accommodations or modifications in the academic environment to enable them to enjoy equal access to academic programs, services, or activities. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Counselling Center at 808-735-4845 for further information.

Policy on Communication

The University provides a Chaminade email address for all students. Official Chaminade communications will be sent to the students' Chaminade email address and instructors will use this email to communicate with students. It is the responsibility of the student to check their email frequently. Report email-related problems to the Helpdesk at 808-735-4855 or helpdesk@chaminade.edu.

Title IX Declaration

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As faculty members, we are interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should we learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you want to speak to a confidential source you may contact the Chaminade Counselling Center at (808) 735-4845.

Electronic Devices

Use of music devices is prohibited during all Natural Science and Mathematics classes at Chaminade, unless specifically permitted by your instructor. Use of music devices in laboratories is a safety issue. In addition, use of music devices in any class is discourteous and may lead to suspicion of academic misconduct. Students who cannot comply with this rule will be asked to leave class and may be subject to laboratory safety violation fines. You will be asked to leave class and marked absent if you do not comply. This will negatively affect your grade. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

The instructor may modify elements of this syllabus according to the operational needs of the class.