

**INSTRUCTOR**

Carlos A. Gutierrez, M.S., M.Ed.

Lecturer of Forensic Sciences

Office: Henry Hall 3

Mailbox: 115 Wesselkamper Science Center

Telephone: + 1 (808) 739-7451

email: carlos.gutierrez@chaminade.edu

Office Hours: Mon, Wed 9:30-10:20 AM; Thu 10:30-11:30 AM; Fri 12:00-1:00PM or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an undergraduate 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.

Introduction to techniques of crime scene investigation. Emphasis will be on search techniques, scene diagramming, photography, proper documentation, recover and preservation of different categories of evidence. Aspects of chain of custody of materials collected and other problems related to admissibility of evidence will be discussed. *Prerequisites: FS 333 or FS 333L. Concurrent registration in FS 340L is required.*

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Each student will finish this class with the ability 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. Demonstrate the entire sequence of protocols involved in an investigation, from entry to the crime scene until the case is completed

Required Text:

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

- Saferstein, R., *Criminalistics, An Introduction to Forensic Science*, 12th edition, Pearson; 2018. ISBN- 9780134477596

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

Recommended Text:

- Fisher, B.A.J., Fisher, D.R., *Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation*, 8th edition, CRC Press; 2012. ISBN 9781439810057

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

ATTENDANCE:

Is mandatory, and the students are expected to be in class and to be on time.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Final grades for the lecture course will be totaled using the following weighting:

Points for assistance and participation: 100 points = 25%

Midterm Exam #1: 100 points = 25%

Midterm Exam #2: 100 points = 25%

Final Exam: 100 points = 25%

Total: 400 points = 100%

GRADING SCALE:

90 - 100% A

80 - <90% B

70 - <80% C

60 - <70% D

<60% F

KEY POINTS FOR SUCCESS

1. The maintenance of your personal protective equipment (PPE) is your responsibility. Please inform us immediately if you have issues with your PPE.
2. Attendance and participation is crucial for success in this class and subsequent Forensic Sciences classes.
3. Assigned book chapters must be read before the relevant block.
4. Adhere to the Forensic Sciences Code of Conduct.
5. Check your email and Canvas regularly.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Block	Class	Date	Chapter	Subject	Notes
1	1	20 Aug		Course Introduction & Syllabus	
	2	22 Aug	1	Introduction [Chapter 1]	
	3	24 Aug	2	The Nature of Physical Evidence [Chapter 2]	
2	4	27 Aug	3	First Responders and Specialized Personnel [Chapter 3]	
	5	29 Aug		Real Case: The puzzle of Hans Pozo	
	6	31 Aug	5	Assessing and Searching the Scene [Chapter 5]	
3		3 Sep		No Class	Labor Day
	7	5 Sep	8	Initial Observations and Notes [Chapter 8, page 223-228]	
	8	7 Sep	4	Processing Methodology [Chapter 4]	
4	9	10 Sep	7	Sketches [Chapter 7]	
	10	12 Sep	7	Forensic Taphonomy	

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

	11	14 Sep	6	Photography (Part 1) [Chapter 6]	
5	12	17 Sep	6	Photography (Part 2) [Chapter 6]	
	13	19 Sep	6	Photography (Part 3) [Chapter 6]), Midterm exam #1 Review	
	14	21 Sep	1,2,3,4,5, 6,7,8	MIDTERM EXAM #1 [Chapters 1-8]	
6	15	24 Sep	9	Fingerprints (Part 1 & 2) [Chapter 9, page 254-278]	
	16	26 Sep	9	Fingerprints (Part 3 & 4)	
	17	28 Sep	13	Forensic Anthropology Buried and Scattered Remains [Chapter 13, page 394-406]	
7	18	1 Oct		Forensic Microanthropology	
	19	3 Oct	9	Impression Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 9, page 278-298]	
	20	5 Oct	9	Impression Evidence (Part 2)	
8		8 Oct		No Class	Columbus Day
	21	10 Oct	13	Forensic Entomology [Chapter 13, page 407-408]	
	22	12 Oct	9	Light Technology [Chapter 9, page 239- 253]	
9	23	15 Oct		Real Case: Identification Process of remains founded in a lake (El Maule Lake, Chile 2013)	
	24	17 Oct	2	Firearms Evidence (Part 1) [Chapter 2, page 44-50; Handout]	
	25	19 Oct	2	Firearms Evidence (Part 2)	
10	26	22 Oct	10	Shooting Scene Documentation and Reconstruction [Chapter 10]	
	29	24 Oct		Real Case: Identification Process in Mass disaster (earthquake and tsunami, Chile 2010)	
	27	26 Oct	8	Crime Scene Reports [Chapter 8 page 228-237], Midterm exam # 2 Review	
11	28	29 Oct		MIDTERM EXAM #2 [Chapters 2,6, 8,9,10,13]	
	30	31 Oct	2	Biological Evidence [Chapter 2, pg. 30- 37; Chapter 11, pg. 353-358]	
	31	2 Nov	11	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis [Chapter 11]	
12	32	5 Nov	6	Bloodstain Pattern Documentation [Chapter 6, pg. 156-172]	
	33	7 Nov	12	The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 1) [Chapter 12]	
	34	9 Nov	12	The Body as a Crime Scene (Part 2)	

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

13		12 Nov		No Class	Veterans' Day
	35	14 Nov	13	Fire Scenes [Chapter 13, page 383-394]	
	36	16 Nov		Real Case: Identification process in Fire, Hostel of Horror, Punta Arenas Case	
		19 Nov		No Class	Thanksgiving
		21 Nov		No Class	Thanksgiving
		23 Nov		No Class	Thanksgiving
14	37	26 Nov	14	Legal Considerations and Ethics [Chapter 14]	
	39	28 Nov		Cases Presentations (3 students)	Mandatory Attendance
	40	30 Nov		Cases Presentations (3 students)	Mandatory Attendance
15	41	6 Dec		FINAL EXAM: 11:00 am -1 pm. Cases Presentations (4 students)	Mandatory Attendance

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 attendance

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

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

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

Imagen Release Statement

The student understands and agree to allow my name, photograph, story and video/audio to be used in any number of marketing purposes and communication vehicles for the promotion of the Forensic Sciences Unit of Chaminade University of Honolulu.

This may include, but is not limited to, magazine articles, web features, national and regional advertising on TV, online, radio, newspapers, magazines, outdoor properties, and specialized microsites.

The student hereby authorizes the Forensic Sciences Unit of Chaminade University of Honolulu and those acting on its behalf to:

- Record my image, likeness, and/or voice on a photographic, video, audio, digital, electronic, or any other medium;
- Use, reproduce, modify, exhibit, and/or distribute any such recording in any medium for any purpose that the Forensic Sciences Unit of Chaminade University of Honolulu may deem appropriate, including promotional or advertising efforts with no compensation to me; and
- Use my name in connection with any such recordings or uses.

The student understands that they shall have no right to inspect or approve any such recordings and uses, and that they shall remain the property of the Forensic Sciences Unit of Chaminade University of Honolulu. The student releases the Forensic Sciences Unit of Chaminade University of Honolulu and those acting pursuant to its authority from liability for any violation of any personal or proprietary right I may have in connection with all such recordings and uses.

If the student do not agree with this imagen release statement, he/she needs to contact the instructor during the first week of classes.

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

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion

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 Counseling 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 a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I 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 Counseling 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.

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion