

CJ355 Crime Scene Investigations**Credit hours:** 3**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: 2.5

Lab: 0

Other: 0

Catalog course description:

This course will cover the evolution of the crime scene investigations. It will cover how to conduct crime scene investigations from first response to court room presentation. It will also cover future trends in crime scene investigations.

Pre-requisites: CJ111 with a “C” or better. Admission to the BASCJ program or signature of CJ program coordinator.

Co-requisites: None

Course learning outcomes:

- Explain the history of crime scene investigation.
- Explain the proper ways to secure a crime scene.
- List the equipment needed to conduct a crime scene investigation.
- Demonstrate the proper way to collect evidence and package it at a crime scene.
- Demonstrate the proper ways to conduct crime scene searches.
- Discuss evidentiary issues concerning first responders and courtroom presentation.

Topics to be studied:

- Crime scene management.
- Crime scene investigation and sketching.
- Fingerprints.
- Evidence collection.
- Evidence transportation.
- History of crime scene investigation.
- Evidentiary procedures for admission in court.
- Special crime scenes.

Relationship of course to program or discipline learning outcomes:

Demonstrate proficiency in the vocabulary pertaining to the Criminal Justice field.	
Explain the history and evolution of the CJ system in the US.	
Explain the investigative process and applicable laws.	X
Demonstrate a basic understanding of the law and the legal system in the US.	
Examine the history and theories of and current practices within the corrections system.	
Explain ethics and how it applies to the CJ system and various CJ professionals.	
Recognize the root causes of crime and criminal behavior and the role criminological theory plays in the study of CJ.	
Display decision making and critical thinking skills as they relate to CJ.	X

Apply learned concepts by bridging the gap between theories and practice.	X
Display an advanced level of understanding of CJ theories and concepts.	X
Demonstrate a proficiency in writing, research, and critical thinking pertaining to the CJ field.	
Recognize the underlying societal problems that lead to crime and victimization.	
Utilize CJ theories and concepts to combat social problems and distribute resources effectively.	

Relationship of course to general education learning outcomes:

Composition and Rhetoric: Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	
Science and Technology: Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	X
Mathematics and Quantitative Skills: Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
Society, Diversity, and Connections: Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	
Human Inquiry and the Past: Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	
The Arts and Creativity: Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	
<i>Updated 05-03-2016</i>	

Special requirements of the course:

None

Additional information:

None

Prepared by:

Rhett Wharton

Date last edited:

October 19, 2017