

**CJ341 Fingerprints and Trace Evidence****Credit hours:** 3**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: 2.5

Lab: 0

Other: 0

**Catalog course description:**

This course will examine the history of fingerprints as an identification procedure in the criminal justice field. The course will explore the collection procedures in collecting fingerprints and trace evidence at a crime scene. It will also cover processing of trace evidence for submission to crime labs for further testing.

**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 fingerprints and their use in the criminal justice system
- demonstrate the proper way to identify and collect latent fingerprints
- list the possible sources of and methods for collecting trace evidence
- relate the proper way to process fingerprint and trace evidence for admission to court

**Topics to be studied:**

This course will examine the history of fingerprinting, identifying fingerprint and trace evidence, collecting and processing fingerprints and trace evidence, and the legal issues surrounding fingerprint and trace evidence.

**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.	
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.	X
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:**

<b>Composition and Rhetoric:</b> 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.	
<b>Science and Technology:</b> 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
<b>Mathematics and Quantitative Skills:</b> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
<b>Society, Diversity, and Connections:</b> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	
<b>Human Inquiry and the Past:</b> Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	
<b>The Arts and Creativity:</b> 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:**

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**Date last edited:**

October 19, 2017