

Course Description

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

This is a 1 semester course consisting of 8 units. Upon successful completion students will receive 0.5 credit towards high school graduation.

Course Overview

- Introduction to Forensic Science
- The Crime Scene
- Physical Evidence
- Physical Evidence: Hair, Blood, and Fingerprints
- Firearms and Tool Marks
- Human Remains
- DNA Evidence
- Arson and Explosion Evidence

Required Course Materials

Please access the list of course materials from the OC Online book ordering system and order your materials as soon as possible. Oftentimes, course materials are on back order and you may experience a delay in receiving them, causing students to fall behind in their online coursework. When ordering used or rented materials, be careful that online access codes are also current.

Methods of Evaluation

Students will demonstrate mastery through the following formative and summative assessments:

- 40% Assignments
- 10% Participation (Discussion Posts, Synchronous Sessions)
- 10% Quizzes
- 25% Midterm & Final Exam
- 15% Tests