Glendale College

Course Outline of Record Report

Revision - May 2023

ADMJ165 : Introduction To Forensics

General Information

Author:	• David Miranda
Course Code (CB01) :	ADMJ165
Course Title (CB02) :	Introduction To Forensics
Department:	ADMJ
Proposal Start:	Fall 2023
TOP Code (CB03) :	(2105.40) Forensics, Evidence, and Investigation
CIP Code:	(43.0406) Forensic Science and Technology.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Clearly Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	Yes
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	No
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000527767
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	06/14/2023
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	12/15/2020
Last Cyclical Review Date:	10/01/2020
Course Description and Course Note:	ADMJ 165 focuses on the basic principles of forensic science and their application and relevance to crime scene investigations. This course is for anyone wanting to understand the basics of forensic science and for the person interested in a career in the forensic field. Topics will include procedures of crime scene investigation, including evidence search and preservation; the role of latent prints and DNA; health and safety issues; history of forensic; overviews of forensic specializations; and related topics.
Justification:	Coding/Category Change
Academic Career:	• Credit

Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	• Administration of Justice (Police science, corrections, law enforcement)
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

Transferability & Gen. Ed. Options

General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

Transferability

Transferable to CSU only

Transferability Status

Approved

Units and Hours

Summary

Minimum Credit Units (CB07)	3
Maximum Credit Units (CB06)	3
Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	54
Total Course Out-of-Class Hours	108
Total Student Learning Hours	162

Credit / Non-Credit Options

Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

☐ Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

☐ Variable Credit Course

Weekly Student Hours

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks)	18
Hours per unit divisor	54
Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	
Lecture	54
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
Total	54
Course Out-of-Class Hours	
Lecture	108
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
Total	108

Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, Anti-requisites and Advisories

Prerequisite

ADMJ101 - Introduction To The Administration Of Justice

Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of the evaluation of criminal justice
- Develop an awareness of the objectives of the system, the crime problem, and role expectation of criminal justice personnel
- Recognize a sense for the importance of education, training and professionalism in the justice system

Entry Standards

Entry Standards	Description
effectively follow the appropriate writing style practiced in the social sciences	ADMJ 101
understand the extent of the crime problem in America	ADMJ 101
demonstrate an understanding of criminology theories used to explain crime and criminality;	ADMJ 101
analyze and clarify conceptual level key terms and ideals applied in criminal justice;	ADMJ 101

Specifications

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction	Lecture
Methods of Instruction	Discussion
Methods of Instruction	Multimedia

Methods of Instruction	Demonstrations

Out of Class Assignments

- Individual and group projects. (e.g. research projects, forensic case reviews, and mock trial scenarios.)

Methods of Evaluation	Rationale
Activity (answering journal prompt, group activity)	Completion of practical exercises (e.g. fingerprint lifting)
Exam/Quiz/Test	Midterm examination
Exam/Quiz/Test	Final examination

Textbook Rationale

No Value

Textbooks

Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Miranda, David M.	Evidence Found	Academic Press	2015	978-0128020661
Ross M. Gardner	Practical Crime Scene Processing and Investigation, 3rd edition	CRC Press	2019	978-1032094434

Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

No Value

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Course Objectives

Recognize the elements of a crime scene and take appropriate notes.

Locate, process, and preserve latent prints at crime scenes or on evidence.

Describe the elements of effective expert witness testimony.

Describe how to locate, identify, collect, and preserve relevant physical evidence.

Recognize and problem solve low visibility issues in crime scene investigation.

SLOs

Discuss forensic disciplines of DNA and serology, trace evidence, firearms examination, impression evidence, toxicology, and death investigation.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ADMJ Administration of Justice - Certificate	Discuss the techniqies used in investigation procedures.
ADMJ Administration of Justice - A.S. Degree Major	Discuss the techniqies used in investigation procedures.
ADMJ Administration of Justice - AS-T	Discuss the techniqies used in investigation procedures.

Articulate an understanding of the basic principles of forensic investigations and what they contribute to criminal cases.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

Discuss the role of critical thinking skills in forensic investigations.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

Additional SLO Information

Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?

No Value

Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?

No Value

If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.

No Value

SLO Evidence

No Value

Course Content

Lecture Content

Introduction to Forensic Science (3)

- Definition and scope of forensic science
- History and development of forensic science
- Services of the crime laboratory
- Functions of the forensic scientist

Fundamentals of Crime Scene Investigation (4)

- Initial response and role of the crime scene investigator
- Crime scene assessment

- Sequential processing
- Evidence Matrix
- Evidence preservation
- Legal considerations

Crime Scene Documentation (3)
- Case notes and written documentation of the crime scene
- Photography and videography
- Sketches and measurements
- Report writing

Understanding the Physical Nature of Evidence (4)
- Class and individual characteristics
- Common types of physical evidence

Evidence Collection (3)
- Evidentiary value identification
- Preservation, documentation, handling, labeling, and collection
- Chain of custody issues

Forensic Equipment (2)
- Latent print processing
- Alternate light sources and lasers
- Still photography and videography
- Lab analysis
- Specialized software

Fingerprints and Palm Prints (4)
- History of fingerprints
- Fingerprint patterns and use for identification
- Fingerprint processing and development techniques
- Automated fingerprint identification systems and databases

Trace Evidence and Impression Evidence (4)
- Trace evidence identification and collection
- Impression evidence casting and collection
- Reference samples

Biological Evidence (4)
- DNA
- Blood evidence
- Blood stain pattern documentation
- Collection of blood evidence

Firearms and Toolmark Evidence (3)
- Bullets and shell casings
- Gun shot residue testing
- Toolmarks
- Documentation techniques

Forensic Pathology and Death Investigation (6)
- Processing the body
- Role of the Coroner and Medical Examiner
- Determining the cause and manner of death

Health and Safety at Crime Scenes and Laboratory Settings (2)
- Biohazards including biological fluids
- Proper personal protective equipment
- Material Data Safety Sheets
- Contamination issues

Courtroom Testimony and New Trends in Forensic Science (2)
- Expert testimony
- Legal and technical issues

Specialized Disciplines (2)
- Arson investigations
- Drug investigations
- Explosives

Crime Scene Reconstruction (6)

- Uses and limitations of each discipline
- Critical thinking
- Deductive reasoning

Future of Forensic Science (2)

- Computer forensics
- New trends in the field

Total hours = 54