

## ADMJ165 : Introduction To Forensics

### General Information

Author:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Curtis G Potter</li></ul>
Course Code (CB01) :	ADMJ165
Course Title (CB02) :	Introduction To Forensics
Department:	ADMJ
Proposal Start:	Spring 2025
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:	05/22/2024
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	07/16/2024
Last Cyclical Review Date:	05/22/2024
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 include procedures of crime scene investigation, including evidence search and preservation; the role of latent prints and DNA; health and safety issues; history of forensics; overviews of forensic specializations; and related topics.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Credit</li></ul>
Author:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Curtis G Potter</li></ul>

### Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Administration of Justice (Police science, corrections, law enforcement)</li></ul>
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

### Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)	Course Special Class Status (CB13)	Grading Basis
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Course is not a basic skills course.

Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Course is not a special class.

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Not applicable.

• Grade Only

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

No value

## Transferability & Gen. Ed. Options

### General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

### Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

### Transferability Status

Approved

C-ID	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
AJ	Administration of Justice	Approved	08/28/2023	AJ 150 - Introduction to Forensics

## 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.

Variable Credit Course

#### Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

### Weekly Student Hours

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6

### Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks)	18
Hours per unit divisor	54

Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

**Course In-Class (Contact) Hours**

Lecture	54
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

**Course Out-of-Class Hours**

Lecture	108
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>

**Time Commitment Notes for Students**

No value

**Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours**

Activity Name	Type	In Class	Out of Class
No Value	No Value	No Value	No Value

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

No Value

**Entry Standards**

Entry Standards

**Course Limitations**

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course

## 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

## Materials Fee

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

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Demonstrate depth of knowledge in a course, discipline, or vocation by applying practical knowledge, skills, abilities, theories, or methodologies to solve unique problems.
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<i>ADMJ</i> Administration of Justice - Certificate	Discuss the techniques used in investigation procedures.
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<i>ADMJ</i> Administration of Justice - A.S. Degree Major	Discuss the techniques used in investigation procedures.
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<i>ADMJ</i> Administration of Justice - AS-T	Discuss the techniques used in investigation procedures.
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**Articulate an understanding of the basic principles of forensic investigations and what they contribute to criminal cases.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.
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**Discuss the role of critical thinking skills in forensic investigations.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
Core ILOs	Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.

## Additional SLO Information

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

No

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

No

**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 hours)**

- 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 hours)**

- Initial response and role of the crime scene investigator
- Crime scene assessment
- Sequential processing
- Evidence Matrix
- Evidence preservation
- Legal considerations

#### **Crime Scene Documentation (3 hours)**

- Case notes and written documentation of the crime scene
- Photography and videography
- Sketches and measurements
- Report writing

#### **Understanding the Physical Nature of Evidence (4 hours)**

- Class and individual characteristics
- Common types of physical evidence

#### **Evidence Collection (3 hours)**

- Evidentiary value identification
- Preservation, documentation, handling, labeling, and collection
- Chain of custody issues

**Forensic Equipment (2 hours)**

- Latent print processing
- Alternate light sources and lasers
- Still photography and videography
- Lab analysis
- Specialized software

**Fingerprints and Palm Prints (4 hours)**

- 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 hours)**

- Trace evidence identification and collection
- Impression evidence casting and collection
- Reference samples

**Biological Evidence (4 hours)**

- DNA
- Blood evidence
- Blood stain pattern documentation
- Collection of blood evidence

**Firearms and Toolmark Evidence (3 hours)**

- Bullets and shell casings
- Gun shot residue testing
- Toolmarks
- Documentation techniques

**Forensic Pathology and Death Investigation (6 hours)**

- 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 hours)**

- Biohazards including biological fluids
- Proper personal protective equipment
- Material Data Safety Sheets
- Contamination issues

**Courtroom Testimony and New Trends in Forensic Science (2 hours)**

- Expert testimony
- Legal and technical issues

**Specialized Disciplines (2 hours)**

- Arson investigations
- Drug investigations
- Explosives

**Crime Scene Reconstruction (6 hours)**

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

**Future of Forensic Science (2 hours)**

- Computer forensics
- New trends in the field

**Total hours: 54**

**Additional Information**

Is this course proposed for GCC Major or General Education Graduation requirement? If yes, indicate which requirement in the two areas provided below.

No

**GCC Major Requirements**

No Value

**GCC General Education Graduation Requirements**

No Value

**Repeatability**

Not Repeatable

**Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)**

No Value

**Resources**

**Did you contact your departmental library liaison?**

Yes

**If yes, who is your departmental library liaison?**

Adina Lerner (Technology & Aviation, Visual & Performing Arts)

**Did you contact the DEIA liaison?**

Yes

**Were there any DEIA changes made to this outline?**

No

**If yes, in what areas were these changes made:**

No Value

**Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)**

- No

**If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.**

No Value