CJSA 2323 1A1
Criminalistics II

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION
Instructor: Dennis White
Email: dwhite@lit.edu
Office Phone: 409-247-5277
Office Location: Technology Center Building Room 214
Office Hours: By appointment

MONDAY: 7:30 am – 8 am   9 am – 2 pm   3 pm – 5:30 pm
TUESDAY: 9:00 am – 9:30 am     12:30 pm – 1 pm
WEDNESDAY: 7:30 am – 8 am     9:am – 2 pm
THURSDAY: 9:00 am – 9:30 am
FRIDAY: 7:30 am – 8 am

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (2 hours lecture, 1 hour lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Hybrid/Lab

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The Theory and practice of crime scene investigation. Topics include report writing; blood and other body fluids: document examination; etchings, casts and molds, glass fractures; use of the microscope, and firearm identification.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Explain the various aspects of theory and practice related to crime scene investigation
- List the procedures used in various types of evidence discovery and examination

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
Forensic Science Today by Dr. Henry C. Lee and George M. Taft (2nd Edition)

Approved: January 2023
ATTENDANCE POLICY
Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS (Due on this Date)</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Course introduction</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>February 12, 2024</td>
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<td>Syllabus and policies;</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>An Introduction to Forensic Science Today</td>
<td>The Forensic Scientist</td>
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<td>Thinking about and</td>
<td>The Forensic Pathologist</td>
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<td>Researching Criminalistics</td>
<td>The Crime Scene Investigator</td>
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<td>A Review to Current Forensics</td>
<td>The Criminal Investigator</td>
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<td>February 12, 2024</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Fire and Arson Evidence</td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 13</td>
<td>February 12, 2024</td>
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<td>Fire Burn Patterns / The</td>
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<td>Fire and Arson Evidence</td>
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<td>The Arson Investigator</td>
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<td>February 12, 2024</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Chemical Evidence</td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 14</td>
<td>February 12, 2024</td>
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<td>Collecting and Packaging</td>
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<td>Evidence</td>
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</table>
| Week 4 | Digital Evidence  
The Computer as a Weapon  
Internet Theft | Textbook: Chapter 15  
February 12, 2024 | February 12, 2024 |
| Week 5 | Forensic Art  
The Jane Doe Case  
The John List Case | Textbook: Chapter 16  
March 24, 2023 | March 4, 2024 |
| Week 6 | Forensic Pathology  
“The Body at Death”  
The Forensic Autopsy  
Estimating the Time of Death  
“The Jon Benet Ramsey Case: A Crime Profile  
The JFK Case and Forensic Profile | Textbook: Chapter 17  
March 4, 2024 | March 4, 2024 |
| Week 7 | Forensic Toxicology  
The DWI Case Investigation  
“Drugs and Bugs”  
Review the “Aunt Diane” real case scenario | Textbook: Chapter 18  
March 4, 2024 | March 4, 2024 |
| Week 8 | Forensic Anthropology  
Analyzing the Hidden Secrets in the Bones  
The Robert Pickton “The Pig Farmer” Case  
Case Study of the Guilty Sausage Maker | Textbook: Chapter 19  
March 4, 2024 | March 4, 2024 |
| Week 9 | Forensic Entomology  
What Can Insects Tell Us About a Murder?  
Selected Cases of Dr. Neal H. Haskell, the bug and maggot doctor…Ref: Entomology and Death | Textbook: Chapter 20  
April 21, 2023 | April 12, 2024 |
| Week 10 | Forensic Dentistry  
Identifying Human Remains through teeth | Textbook: Chapter 21  
April 12, 2024 | April 12, 2024 |
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Case Studies of Dr. Henry Lee, Dr. Lowell Levine (Ted Bundy) Remains of Dr. Josef Mengele / The Last Russian Czar Nicholas and Family / The Donna Payant correctional Officer Murder Case by Dr. Michael Baden</th>
<th>Forensic Engineering Reconstructing events such a building collapses, auto crashes, etc. The East Texas Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster Guest Speaker U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston</th>
<th>Textbook: Chapter 22 April 12, 2024</th>
<th>April 12, 2024</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>The Andrea Yates Case The Robert Durst Case The Richard Speck Case The Ed Gein Case</td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 23 April 29, 2024</td>
<td>April 29, 2024</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Jurisprudence: Law and Forensics CRIME SCENE SEARCH PRACTICAL PROBLEM(S)</td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 25 April 29, 2024</td>
<td>April 29, 2024</td>
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Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Unit Tests 30%
- Course Project 20%
- Class Assignments 20%
- Final Exam 15%
- Lab/Online Exercise 5%
- Participation 5%
- Attendance 5%

**GRADE SCALE**

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution’s Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at [http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty](http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty).

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at [https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements](https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements). A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

**DISABILITIES STATEMENT**
The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles’ Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT
It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the LIT Catalog and Student Handbook. The LIT Catalog and Student Handbook may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the LIT Catalog and Student Handbook supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH
LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
1. Students will learn to explain the various aspects of theory and practice related to crime scene investigation.
2. Critical Thinking Analysis – Analyze a current and or past criminal case using the Scientific Theory or concept from the beginning call to court completion from a crime scene perspective.
3. Research and Practical Application Project – Students will research a past felony crime issue / topic of major significance and then complete a practical crime scene investigation to include search, photographing, sketching discovery and collection of evidence, written report and prepare for testifying in a mock court room case. The assignment will consist of a research report and presentation.
4. Exams – There will be three exams and a Final Exam. Each exam will cover 3-4 chapters of the text.
5. The Course Calendar is subject to change without prior notice.