

**CJ 268.01**  
**Criminal Investigation**  
**Fall 2007**

**Professor:** Mark Pullin  
**Office:** Kirkley 122  
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**E-Mail:** stdrmp12@shsu.edu  
**Class Hours:** Monday 6:00pm - 8:50pm  
**Classroom:** CJC A181  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 9am – 12pm, By Appointment

**Required Reading:**

Bennett, W.W., and Hess, K.M. **Criminal Investigation**, (8<sup>th</sup> ed.), Thompson-Wadsworth (2007).

**Course Description:**

A brief overview of scientific crime detection and more detailed discussion of techniques for case management and documentation, the concepts of proof, the impact of emergent technology on the investigative process, interaction with victims and witnesses, and interviewing suspects.

**Course Objectives:**

1. The student will learn basic principles and practices of criminal investigation.
2. Introduce the student to some techniques and tools used in the criminal investigation process.
3. Examine issues pertaining to major crimes and how they are investigated.
4. Use some of the techniques and tools learned to process a mock crime scene.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance will be recorded pursuant to University policy. Role will be taken each class session. **More than five (5) absences will result in failure of the course.** This rule applies to all absences for whatever reason. No distinction will be made for excused or unexcused absences.

**Classroom Conduct and Participation:**

Students are encouraged to participate in scholarly debate of the issues pertinent of this course. It is expected that alternative opinions may arise between members of the class including the instructor. All students are expected to treat others with respect to their opinions. **Blatant disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated in the classroom. Violations of this policy will result in immediate dismissal from the classroom.**

**Exams and Crime Scene Project:**

All exams will consist of multiple choice, essays, and identification of criminal investigation techniques depending on where the class is at exam time.

The crime scene project will require students to collect evidence, use proper crime scene measuring techniques, and crime scene photography. Students will work in groups with each person assigned to individual tasks similar to realistic criminal investigations. Any person not carrying their load will be graded accordingly.

**Grading Policy:**

Exam 1	100 Points	A 440-500
Exam 2	100 Points	B 380-439
Final Exam	100 Points	C 320-379
Crime Scene	100 Points	D 260-319
Attendance/Participation	<u>100 Points</u>	F Below 260
<b>Total</b>	<b>500 Points</b>	

**Make-up Exams:**

No make-up exams will be given unless arrangements have been made prior to the examination date.

Make-up exams must be taken within one (1) week of the original test date.

Crime Scene projects must be turned in on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and will not be accepted after the end of class.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

**Disabled Student Policy:**

Please see the following website:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/811006.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html)

**Services for Disabled Students:**

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

**Student Absences on Religious Holiday Policy:**

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

**Writing Assistance:**

The Sam Houston Writing Center is available to all students who need writing assistance. The center is located in the Farrington Building, Room 111, and is open every day of the week. More information about the center and its services may be found at the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~wctr>

### **Course Outline:**

The following is a tentative schedule and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. All materials are expected to be read before each class time so quality class participation can occur.

- August 20      Class Introduction and Orientation  
                    Chapter 1: Criminal Investigation: An Overview
- August 27      Chapter 2: Documenting the Crime Scene: Note Taking, Photographing,  
                    and Sketching.  
                    Chapter 3: Writing Effective Reports
- September 3    Labor Day – No Class
- September 10    Speaker: Jim McNutt: US Customs and Border Protection  
                    Chapter 5: Forensics/Physical Evidence (McNutt)
- September 17    Speaker: US Marshals  
                    Chapter 4: Searches
- September 24    Chapter 6: Obtaining Information  
                    Chapter 7: Identifying and Arresting Subjects
- October 1        **Exam I**
- October 8        Chapter 8: Death Investigation  
                    Chapter 9: Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Elder Abuse
- October 15      Chapter 10: Sex Offenses  
                    Chapter 11: Crimes Against Children and Youths
- October 22      Chapter 12: Robbery  
                    Chapter 13: Burglary
- October 29      **Exam II**
- November 5      Chapter 15: Motor Vehicle Theft  
                    Chapter 16: Arson, Bombs, and Explosives
- November 12    Chapter 21: Preparing for and Presenting Cases in Court
- November 19    Crime Scene: Group 1  
November 26    Crime Scene: Group 2
- December 3     Turn In and Discuss Results of Crime Scene

Review for Final

December 10 **Final Exam**