

Sam Houston State University
 Introduction to Forensic Science
 CJ 366.1
 Fall 2007
 MWF 1:00-1:50pm
 Room CJ A290

Dr. Joan A. Bytheway
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Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00-1:30 pm, Friday 11 -
 12:30pm, or by appointment

COURSE SYLLABUS

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Readings/Labwork	Topics
Aug 20-24	Chapter 1 Chapters 2 & 3	Syllabus and Administrative Issues History and Development of Forensic Science Crime Scene Investigation
Aug 27-31	Chapters 2 & 3 Chapters 4, 5 & 6	Crime Scene Investigation Analytical Tools
Sept 5-7	Chapters 4, 5 & 6 Lecture	Analytical Tools Investigation of Traumatic Deaths
Sept 10-14	Lecture	Investigation of Traumatic Deaths
17-Sep		Review EXAM 1
Sept 19-21	Chapter 7	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES Forensic Pathology/Autopsy
Sept 24-28	Chapter 8	Forensic Anthropology & Entomology
Oct 1-5	Chapter 9	Forensic Anthropology & Entomology
Oct 8-12	Chapter 10	Serology and Bloodstain Pattern Analysis
Oct 15-19	Chapter 11	DNA Analysis Review
22-Oct		EXAM 2
Oct 24-26	Chapter 13	CHEMICAL SCIENCES Drugs
Oct 29 - Nov 2	Chapter 14	Forensic Toxicology
Nov 5-9	Chapter 15	Textile Fibers
Nov 12-16	Chapter 16	Paint Analysis
19-Nov	Chapter 17	Soil and Glass

CC

Nov 26-30

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Chapter 19

Friction Ridge Examination

Dec 3-5

Chapter 21

Firearms and Toolmarks

Review

12-Dec 2-4 pm

EXAM 3

The class readings/lectures and/or exercises may be modified to accommodate for class progression, discussions, guest speakers, and/or videos.

Other materials, such as internet exercises, internet readings, journal articles, and handouts may also be assigned.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Fundamentals of Forensic Science, Houck and Siegel
Academic Press ISBN# 0123567629

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a science based class. There is both chemistry and biology included in the course.

This course introduces the various disciplines of forensic science. It is designed to equip the student with basic knowledge, principles, and techniques of forensic science.

In the course we will examine the history and development of forensic science, and the various fields encompassed in forensic science. We will delve more deeply into the role of the forensic pathologist, examine the protocol and procedures utilized in investigating traumatic deaths, and walk through the crime scene investigation process. We will also examine the roles and responsibilities of the forensic laboratories. This will include identifying bloodstain patterns, identifying human vs. animal blood, examining trace evidence, such as hair, fibers, and glass. We will also examine how firearms experts perform forensic tasks.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To gain knowledge of the various specialized forensic science fields.
2. To understand the identification, collection, and preservation of all crime scene physical evidence.
3. To utilize critical thinking skills.
4. To examine basic applications of various specialized forensic science fields.
5. To aid the student in his/her academic and career interests relative to the forensic sciences.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University (800401) that students attend class regularly and are punctual.

University policy allows students to miss 3 hours of class. Please see me if you anticipate exceeding the 3 allotted class hours due to medical reasons.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

The use of cell phones (including text messaging) is NOT permitted in class. **Make sure phones are turned OFF.**

Assignments are turned in on the date set. Any late assignments automatically lose 1/2 of the assignment points.

Nov 26-30

Chapter 19

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