

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: CJ 209 Criminalistics

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: RD 100, EN 060

### Description:

This course provides the student a descriptive presentation of forensic science practices, focusing on how enforcement practitioners examine crime scenes to identify, collect and preserve physical evidence.

### Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Apply the roles and definitions of criminalistics and forensic science.
- Distinguish the different types of crime scene searches for the collection of scientific evidence.
- Demonstrate the collection, packaging, labeling and submission of evidence to the crime laboratory.
- Identify and classify the Henry system of fingerprints and the modern AFIS system.

### Topical Outline:

- Investigating the Crime Scene
- Investigating and Processing Physical Evidence
- Physical Properties: Forensic Characterization of Soil
- The Microscope and Forensic Identification of Hair, Fibers, Paint
- Forensic Analysis of Glass
- Fingerprints
- Questioned Documents
- Firearms
- Inorganic Analysis: Forensic Determination of Metals and Gunshot Residue
- Arson
- Drugs of Abuse
- Forensic Toxicology
- Biological Fluids
- Forensic DNA Typing
- Computer Forensics, Cybercrime and Cyber Terrorism
- Explosives

- Detecting Weapons of Mass Destruction

Text: Saferstein, (2015). *Forensic Science: From the Crime Scene to the Crime Lab* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Pearson.

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

### **Before Withdrawing From This Course**

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.