

Virginia Western Community College

ADJ 236

Principles of Criminal Investigation

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Surveys the fundamentals of criminal investigation procedures and techniques. Examines crime scene search, collecting, handling and preserving of evidence.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Clinical/Internship Hours: 0

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

Textbook:

Criminal Investigation, 11th edition Author: Hess and Orthmann
ISBN# 978-130-575-9121

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

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

- Document a crime scene
- Prepare well-written crime reports
- Conduct searches and prepare sketches of the crime scene
- Understand the procedure for death investigations
- Be familiar with investigations involving violent crime
- Know the procedure for investigating property crimes
- Recognize gang activity
- Comprehend the negative effects of drug use
- Know the basics of organized crime
- Understand the complex nature of Homeland Security

Topical Description

1	Overview of Criminal Investigations
2	Crime Scene
3	Effective Report Writing
4	Searches and Sketches
5	Forensics
6	Identifying and Arresting Suspects
7	Death Investigations
8	Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking and Elder Abuse
9	Sex Offenses
10	Crimes against Children
11	Property Crimes
12	Arson, Bombs, and Explosions
13	Computer Crimes
14	Drug Crimes
15	Organized Crime
16	Gangs
17	Homeland Security
18	Testifying in Court

Notes to Instructors

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)

[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)

