

Virginia Western Community College

ADJ 171

Forensic Science I

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Introduces student to crime scene technology, procedures for sketching, diagramming and using casting materials. Surveys the concepts of forensic chemistry, fingerprint classification/identification and latent techniques, drug identification, hair and fiber evidence, death investigation techniques, thin-layer chromatographic methods, and arson materials examination.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 2

Lab/Clinical/Internship Hours: 1

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

Textbook:

Forensic Science, From Crime Scene to the Crime Lab. 4th edition. Richard Saferstein and Tiffany Roy. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-134-80607-5.

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

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

- Review the history of forensic science
- Critically analyze forensic science issues in the courtroom
- Understand the proper identification, collection, and preservation techniques of forensic evidence
- Recognize quality assurance and control measures by forensic professionals
- Describe various tools and techniques used by forensic scientists
- Define serology, entomology, pathology, and anthropology and their relationship with modern forensic science
- Successfully document and process a mock crime scene for evidence

Topical Description

1	Latent fingerprint identification and recovery techniques
2	Serology
3	Pathology
4	DNA analysis
5	Blood spatter evidence analysis
6	Trace evidence analysis
7	Tool mark and ballistic analysis
8	Crime scene searches
9	Proper identification, collection, and preservation techniques
10	Mock crime scenes
11	Photographic and sketch evidence
12	Controlled dangerous substance identification and evidence
13	Courtroom issues associated with evidence collection and forensic science

Notes to Instructors

None

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

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