

Course Syllabus Fors. 2440.613 Spring 2013

Department: Biology **Course Title:** Introduction to Forensic Science
Name: Fors_2440_613 **Start Date:** 01/22/2013 **End Date:** 05/17/2013
Modality: FACE-TO-FACE **Credits:** 4 **Day:** MW **Time:** 6:00 – 8:50 pm
Instructor's Name: Clovis Stacey **OC Email:** cstacey@odessa.edu
Instructor's Office: WH 130 **OC Phone #:** (432) 335-6543
Office Hours: M: 11am - 12 pm, 4-5 pm; T: 11 am - 1 pm, W: 9-10 am, 5-6 pm; Th: 11 am – 1pm, F: 9-10 am by appointment

Course Description: Survey of the procedures of crime scene investigation in gathering evidence and applicable scientific technologies that follow established protocols by first responders; a preview of how criminalists in forensic laboratories will process the gathered evidence presented. Approval maximum contact hours. Lab fee required.

Prerequisites: BIOL 1406 with a grade of “C” or better or approval of Instructor

ICOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

Course Objectives:

1. Learner will be able to define and distinguish forensic science and criminalistics.
2. Learner will be able to identify and describe the specialized fields within the forensic science field.
3. Learner will be able to recognize the importance of crime scene protection
4. Learner will be able to identify significant types of crime scene investigation procedures.
5. Learner will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of crime scene reconstruction.
6. Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the tools used by Criminalistic Officers during crime scene investigations.
7. Learner will be able to explain the basic physical evidence collection process for various types of crime scenes .

Required Readings/Materials: *Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science*. 10th edition, by Richard Saferstein, 2011; ISBN- -13-504520-7, ISBN- 13: 978-0-13-504520-6

Grading Policy: The learners semester grade for the course is determined by calculating the below percentiles for each area, and then adding the percentiles for each area together for a percentage out of 100:

Lecture test grades = 70% Lab test grades = 30%

A= 89.5 – 100
B = 79.5 - 89.49
C = 69.5 - 79.49
D = 59.5 - 69.49
F = <59.5

Special Needs: Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center (Library): The Library, known as the Learning Resources Center, provides research assistance via the LRC's catalog (print books, videos, e-books) and databases (journal and magazine articles). Research guides covering specific subject areas, tutorials, and the "Ask a Librarian" service provide additional help.

Student E-mail: Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Student Portal: Odessa College uses the Student Portal found on the OC Homepage

Technical Support: For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies: For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or students' and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

Student Success: The Odessa College Student Success Coaches will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert or a Starfish Alert. A Student Success Coach will contact you to work toward a solution.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Instructors:

1. As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will
 - provided my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
 - respond to all messages in a timely manner through telephone, email, or next classroom contact; and,
 - notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of emergencies during the time I'm unavailable.

2. As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will
 - provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and
 - communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.
3. As an instructor, I understand that I need to provide regular, timely feedback to students about their performance in the course. To keep students informed about their progress, I will
 - return classroom activities and homework within one week of the due date and
 - provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Students:

1. As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will
 - attend the course regularly and line up alternative transportation in case my primary means of transportation is unavailable;
 - recognize that the college provides free wi-fi, computer labs, and library resources during regular campus hours to help me with completing my assignments; and,
 - understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my personal computer equipment or internet service is unreliable.
2. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to,
 - missing class when a major test is planned or a major assignment is due;
 - having trouble submitting assignments;
 - dealing with a traumatic personal event; and,
 - having my work or childcare schedule changed so that my classroom attendance is affected.
3. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will
 - seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
 - ask questions if I don't understand; and,
 - attend class regularly to keep up with assignments and announcements.

Department Specific Information:

1. Last Day to drop the class with a "W" is Tuesday, April 16, 2013.
2. Cell phones must be turned off while the student is in the classroom.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Jan.	23	Introduction
	28	Ch 1: Introduction; Ch 2: The Crime Scene
Feb.	04	Ch 3: Physical Evidence; Ch 4: Physical Properties: Glass and Soil

	11	Test 1 (Ch. 1-4); Review Test 1; Ch. 5: Organic Analysis
	18	Ch. 6: Inorganic Analysis; Ch7: The Microscope
	25	Test 2 (Ch. 5-7); Review Test 2; Ch. 8: Drugs
Mar.	04	Ch. 9: Forensic Toxicology; Ch. 10: Forensic Serology
	11-16	Spring Break: No Classes
	18	Ch 11: The Indispensable Forensic Science Tool
	25	Test 3 (Ch. 8-11); Review Test 3; Ch 12: Crime Scene Reconstruction
Apr.	01	Ch. 13: Hair Fibers, and Paint; Ch. 14: Forensic Aspects of Fire Investigation
	08	Test 4 (Ch. 12-14), Review test 4; Ch 15: Forensic Investigation of Explosions
	15	Ch. 16: Fingerprints; Ch. 17: Firearms, Tool Marks, and Other Impressions
	16	Last Day to drop or withdraw with a "W"
	22	Test 5 (Ch. 15-17), Review Test 5; Ch. 18: Document Examination
	29	Ch. 19: Computer Forensics; Ch 20: The Future
May	06	Test 6 (Ch. 18-20), Review Test 6
	15	Final Exam, Wednesday, Time: 6:00 - 08:30 pm, Room: P2
	09	Comprehensive Make up exam

Tentative Laboratory Schedule FORS 2404 Spring 2013

LABORATORY MANUAL: *Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science. Lab Manual*, 9th edition, by C. E. Meloan, R. E. James, and R. Saferstein, Pearson. ISBN: 0-13-221657-4

LABORATORY ATTENDANCE: The laboratory portion of this course is mandatory.

TESTING: There are six lab exams at 100 pts. each. A deduction is given for misspelling.

Date	LABORATORY EXERCISE
Jan. 23	Introduction
	30 Microscope
Feb. 06	Metrics
	13 Practical 1 (Microscope & Metrics); Ex. 3: Density
	20 Review Lab 1 Test; Ex. 9: Blood Typing
	27 Blood Spatter
Mar. 06	Lab Test 2 (25), Ex. 11: Intro. To Fingerprinting
	11 Spring Break: No Labs
	20 Review Lab 2 Test; Ex. 12: Fingerprinting
	27 Ex. 13 : Casts
Apr. 03	Lab Test 3 (11, 12 & 13); Ex. 15: Restoring Serial Numbers
	10 Review Lab Test 3; Comparison Microscope

	17	Ex. 17 : Examination of Hair and Textile Fibers by Microscopy
	24	Lab Test 4 (15, Comparsion Microscope, & 17); Human Skeleton
May	01	Review Lab Test 4; Human Skeleton
	08	Lab Test 5 (Bones);
	15	NO LABS THIS WEEK