This syllabus is our contract. Please read it in its entirety. You will be required to pass a quiz on the syllabus content before continuing in the course.

3 Units
You should anticipate nine (9) hours a week of coursework in this class.
Three hours in the classroom and six hours outside of class.

Meeting location, dates and times
Wednesdays 6:00 pm to 9:10 pm, Industry and Technology Bldg. Rm. 229

NOTE: The AJ program has moved to our new building across from the library.
Instructor: Mattie Roth

Contact Information
Email mroth@elcamino.edu
Office Location: Adjunct faculty do not maintain office hours however I am willing to meet with you before class or speak with you on the phone. Send me an email to schedule this.
DISABILITY STATEMENT

El Camino College adheres to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with temporary and permanent disabilities. If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in this class, I encourage you to register with the Special Resource Center (SRC) and talk to me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential.

Note: for more information about the special resource center, please call 660-3295 or visit (SRC) room F-10. In addition, if you discover any portion of this course that is not accessible please notify me directly so that I may take action to fix the situation.

Course Recommended Preparation

English-A and English-84

English A and 84 are recommended preparation for this course. It is expected that you complete your general education courses prior to enrolling in this course and as such you are expected to have developed college level reading and composition skills.

English-A

Ability to compose a written essay:

- Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques.
- Demonstrate ability to incorporate into draft revision information received in peer review and one-on-one tutorials.
- Plan, write, and revise expository essays including an introduction and conclusion, exhibiting coherence and unity, avoiding major grammatical and mechanical errors that interfere with meaning, and demonstrating awareness of audience, purpose, and language choice.
- Utilize APA guidelines to format a document, to cite sources in the text of an essay, and to compile a Works Cited list.
Ability to read and understand law enforcement texts and journals:

- Utilize comprehension and vocabulary strategies to improve reading rate.
- Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a college-level textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.
- Identify an implied main idea (thesis), and support with major and minor details, from a longer text or novel.
- Interpret a book-length work through discussion, journal writing, or composition writing.
- Compare and contrast college-level texts to evaluate content.

About AJ 132

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG

This course provides students with an introduction to forensic crime scene investigation (CSI). It examines the methods utilized in the forensic analysis of crime scenes, pattern evidence, instruments, firearms, questioned documents and controlled substances. The student will gain an understanding of the workings of a CSI unit, an overview of the relationship between forensic science and law enforcement, as well as evidence collection and analysis rules.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

These are our performance measures to ensure you demonstrate an understanding of what we set out to teach.

1. Upon completion of this course and by participating in the learning process, the students will achieve a basic level of proficiency and an ability to demonstrate the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary to conduct a basic crime scene investigation.

2. Upon completion of this course and by participating in the learning process, the students will gain a principal understanding of the role of the Crime Scene Investigator in the criminal investigation process.

3. Upon completion of this course and by participating in the learning process, the students will recognize evidence at the crime scene and understand the value of crime scene evidence as it relates to crime scene investigation and providing investigative leads.
COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify and explain the role of forensic specialists in the Criminal Justice System.
2. Explain the process of locating, identifying, marking, and properly collecting various categories of evidence located within a crime scene. This would include physical objects, latent fingerprints, biological material, shoe and tool impressions and any type of trace evidence.
3. Demonstrate crime scene documentation techniques such as sketches and photography which includes the nature of the crime, observations of the crime scene, identity of all persons who enter and leave, evidence found, evidence collected including the nature of the evidence item, who collected the item, how it was collected, and how it was secured and preserved.
4. Analyze crime scenes to identify supplies and equipment needed to conduct a proper crime scene investigation.
5. Explain the procedures for the collection and preserving DNA evidence to prevent contamination. Identify the three methods of DNA typing.
6. Compare and contrast the roles of the crime scene investigation process and that of the crime lab in which the criminalist performs the analysis on evidence collected during the crime scene investigation.
7. Explain the various databases available to the investigator to search for known standards to compare to specimens recovered from a crime scene including the FBI’s AFIS fingerprint database and the State of California’s CODIS DNA database.
8. Apply all rules of search and seizure concerning evidence found and collected at a crime scene including the application of the 4th amendment and all applicable exceptions to the 4th amendment as they relate to search and seizure.
9. Identify the various types of crime scenes and differentiate between crime scene processes versus crime scene analysis.
10. Identify and Differentiate depressant, stimulant, hallucinogen, and narcotic substances and explain the methods of analyzing each type of substance in a forensic laboratory.
11. Identify and explain Personal Identification Patterns that identify a person.
12. Identify and differentiate the types of pattern evidence and explain their respective importance in crime scene reconstruction.
REQUIRED TEXT:

FORENSIC SCIENCE: FROM CRIME SCENE TO THE CRIME LAB

Author SAFERSTEIN
Edition 2ND 2013
Published Date 2013
ISBN 9780131391871
Publisher PEARSON

Available in the bookstore for
$180 new, $135 used. Rental options may be available
E-book option: $74

The textbook is an integral part of this course. Many of the exam questions will come directly out of the text and its on-line resources. In addition, there are homework assignments that you will need the text to complete.

COUSE POLICIES

Attendance

You are required to attend class on a weekly basis. If you miss more than 10% of the classroom time (either by absence or tardiness) I am required to drop you from the course. This is 5.4 hours or two full absences. If you stop showing up to class I will assume you don’t want to remain enrolled and will process an “Active Enrollment” drop. Reinstatement after an Active Enrollment drop requires you make-up of any missing work and a meeting with the instructor to
discuss a strategy for future work. Reinstatement is completely at MY discretion and I seldom grant it. Dropping a course results in a “W” on the student's permanent record and will also severely impact your ability to repeat the course again in the future.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
Teaching and learning is a two-way process. This course will use multiple andragogical (adult learning) methods to engage that process. These methods will include lecture, interactive discussions, guest speakers, hands-on exercises, group exercises, multi-media presentations (audio, video, PowerPoint, Prezi), mass media (newspapers, TV, internet) and the flipped-classroom concept. This class is highly interactive where you will be giving in-class presentations, answering questions, and working on scenarios. I believe this to be an excellent method of evaluating your learning and as such, participation is a large part of your grade.

Turn It in (turnitin.com)
Some of your written work will be submitted through Turnitin.com. If you have already used this system then all you need is the course code and password I will provide in class.

Make-up Work

From time to time unexpected occurrences may cause you to not complete an assignment on time. This should be the exception rather than the rule. As such here is my policy on make-up work:

You have been provided two (2) “Late Pass” coupons at the end of this document. You may use those to turn in late homework for full credit. (NOTE: They cannot be used for exams, the Term Project, or the Discussion Boards. I’ve had several students use their late passes in the first two weeks. This is not a productive way to start the semester.

Note: No late assignments may be turned in after the final drop date for the semester.

Late homework: Homework is by the start of the next class or on the date listed by the instructor. Homework that is submitted after the due date loses one grade (or equivalent points) per weekday day late. As such, you lose all points after one week.
Exams: Exams are given at the beginning of class on the dates listed in the Course Master Schedule. I start the time clock once the exam is handed out. If you show up late for class you have two choices:

1. Try and complete the exam in the remaining time.
2. Complete a make-up exam with the penalties described in the next paragraph.

The student who fails to complete a scheduled examination will have to make up that exam within five calendar days. Make-up exams are credited at 50% of the actual score received. Although this policy may appear harsh, it is in the interest of fairness. To allow one student the advantage of additional study time and the possibility of obtaining information about the exam would be highly unfair to the remainder of the class.

Term Project: The term project is divided into several segments. The due dates for all segments of the term project are “hard dates” meaning if you fail to submit by the due dates you will lose all points for that segment.

LEARNING SUGGESTIONS

✓ Do the assigned readings prior to class.
  o I will discuss the best method of getting the most from the textbook. Typically reading word for word through the entire chapter does not lead to a high level of comprehension.
✓ The book provides review material both in the text and on-line. I typically see students using their smartphones on campus and in class (we will discuss that later). Put them to good use and go to the textbook resources.
✓ Stay informed on current issues. You have current event assignments due during the semester.
✓ Ask questions and participate in classroom discussions.
✓ It is important to approach the class with an open mind and seek to be informed.
PARTICIPATION

Attendance at all class sessions is necessary for optimal successful completion of the course. ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY CLASS MEETING. Students will be asked to sign next to their name on the attendance roster or roll will be called. It is considered academic dishonesty and grounds for disciplinary action to sign or answer for someone else. Attendance may also be taken at the end of class. If you need to leave class early on an occasional basis, let me know and we can discuss a course of action. If your attendance or academic achievement is below standard or adversely impacting your grade and performance, I will notify you of such and suggest a course of action to improve your performance. Your success in this course is my primary goal but you will have to put forth the effort to improve if necessary.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to do their own work unless tasked with a group assignment. All assignments including reports, homework, quizzes and exams are a direct reflection of your thoughts and words. Students turning in work that is determined to not be their own can expect to receive zero points for that assignment. Plagiarism, regardless of the source of information is grounds for disciplinary action. Students caught cheating on exams or quizzes will at minimum, receive zero points for the exam or quiz. Students cheating could also earn an “F” for the course and/or be expelled from the college depending on the circumstances. In addition, cheating in college can severely impact your ability to gain future employment in law enforcement which places a heavy emphasis on honesty and integrity. The student conduct code of this campus is outlined in the section titled “Student Code of Conduct” of the Board Policies section on the El Camino College website. This career field, like no other, requires you to rise to standards established by others.
GRADING

OK, this is the part you have all been waiting for so here we go:
You all start this class on day one with 100%...then the work begins. As long as you stay engaged you will likely pass the course.

The course grade will be weighted as indicated below. For the course grade, students will be evaluated based on a percentage of a total of points accumulated during the semester. The point breakdown and a tentative distribution of letter grades for the course are as follows:

A= 90 – 100 %   B= 80 – 89 %   C= 70 – 79%   D= 60 – 69 %   F= Below 60 %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Participating in the classroom activities. You have to show up to class to participate. Arriving late or leaving early also affects your ability to participate</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Puzzles, handouts, short essay assignments.</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Events</td>
<td>These are worth 10 points each. Every week selected students will discuss their current event with the class.</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Project</td>
<td>Details will be provided in class.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>These are listed in the course schedule.</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>This will be comprehensive final exam covering all aspects of this class.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Important Dates Fall 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Day to Apply for Graduation and Certificates</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day To Add or Drop Without Notation on Permanent Record</td>
<td>Friday, September 4, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day Holiday (Campus Closed)</td>
<td>Monday, September 7, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day to Apply for Degrees and Certificates</td>
<td>Friday, October 9, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Day Holiday (Campus Closed)</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 11, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day to Drop with a “W”</td>
<td>Friday, November 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday (Campus Closed)</td>
<td>Thursday, November 26 – Sunday, November 29, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of Semester</td>
<td>Thursday, December 10, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Date</td>
<td>Topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **1** 08/26 | Course Orientation  
Chapter 1 - Introduction to Forensic CSI |
| **2** 09/02 | Chapter 2 – Securing and Searching the Crime Scene |
| **3** 09/09 | Chapter 3 – Recording the Crime Scene |
| **4** 09/16 | Chapter 4 – Collection of Crime Scene Evidence |
| **5** 09/23 | Exam #1 Chapters 1-4  
Chapter 5 - Physical Evidence |
| **6** 09/30 | Chapter 6 – Death Investigation |
| **7** 10/07 | Chapter 7 - Crime Scene Reconstruction  
Chapter 8 - Fingerprints |
| **8** 10/14 | Chapter 9 – Firearms, tool marks, and other impressions |
| **9** 10/21 | Exam #2 Chapters 5-9  
Chapter 10 – Blood Pattern Analysis |
| **10** 10/28 | Chapter 11 – Drugs  
Chapter 12 - Forensic Toxicology |
| **11** 11/04 | Chapter 13 Trace Evidence – Hairs and Fibers  
Chapter 14 – Trace Evidence – Paint, Glass, and Soil |
| **11/11** | Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL |
| **13** 11/18 | Chapter 15 – Bio Stain Analysis – DNA  
Chapter 16 – Fire and Explosion Investigation |
| **14** 11/25 | Exam #3 – Chapters 10-16  
Chapter 17 – Document Examination  
Chapter 18 – Computer Forensics |
| **15** 12/02 | Term Project - Presentations |
| **15** 12/09 | Final Examination |
This page intentionally left blank
**Homework Late Pass #1**

This pass allows you to submit one homework assignment after the due date listed in Etudes. This does not apply to examinations, the Term Project, or discussion board assignments.

Course and section number: AJ______________________________

Assignment Name:__________________________________________

Student Name _____________________________________________

Date received by instructor__________________________________

NOTE: This late pass shall not be photocopied or used by anyone other than the student to which it was assigned to. Violation of this policy shall constitute a violation of El Camino College Academic Integrity regulations and can result in being dropped from the course and receiving a grade of “F”

Expires: April 17, 2015 @ 5pm.

---

**Homework Late Pass #2**

This pass allows you to submit one homework assignment after the due date listed in Etudes. This does not apply to examinations, the Term Project, or discussion board assignments.

Course and section number: AJ______________________________

Assignment Name:__________________________________________

Student Name _____________________________________________

Date received by instructor__________________________________

NOTE: This late pass shall not be photocopied or used by anyone other than the student to which it was assigned to. Violation of this policy shall constitute a violation of El Camino College Academic Integrity regulations and can result in being dropped from the course and receiving a grade of “F”

Expires: April 17, 2015 @ 5pm.