

I. COURSE INFORMATION

- A. Criminal Justice 240 Criminal Investigation
- B. 3 credit hours
- C. Swanson, Chamelin, Territo, and Taylor. *Criminal Investigation*. 12th ed. Ohio: McGraw-Hill, 2019
- D. Prerequisites: None

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores issues including the effective interview and interrogation techniques, crime scene management and lab processes, crime scene documentation methods, case preparation and court presentation.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A. Determine criminal investigator characteristics necessary for a fair, complete and impartial investigation
- B. Analyze facts to determine if a crime has been committed
- C. Explain the purpose of each step in the criminal investigative process
- D. Demonstrate documentation methods and procedures through the entire investigation process
- E. Explain how to record a crime scene, collect, and preserve evidence
- F. Explain appropriate protocol for collection, preservation and transportation of physical evidence to crime lab
- G. Conduct a follow-up investigation using a variety of techniques
- H. Identify appropriate techniques for questioning victims, witnesses, and interrogating suspects
- I. Explain a case for court presentation

IV. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- A. Evolution of criminal investigation and forensic science
- B. Legal aspects of investigation
- C. Investigators, the investigative process, and the crime scene
- D. Physical evidence
- E. Interviewing and interrogating
- F. Field notes and reporting
- G. The follow-up investigation and investigative resources
- H. The crime laboratory
- I. Injury and death investigations
- J. Sex-related offenses
- K. Crimes against children
- L. Human trafficking
- M. Robbery and burglary
- N. Larceny/theft and white-collar crime
- O. Vehicle thefts and related offenses
- P. Cybercrime
- Q. Agricultural, wildlife, and environmental crimes
- R. Arson and explosives investigations
- S. Recognition, control, and investigation of drug abuse
- T. Terrorism
- U. The trial process and the investigator as a witness

V. ASSIGNMENTS (may include but are not limited to)

- A. Reading assignments
- B. Writing assignments
- C. Discussions
- D. Quizzes and tests

- VI. EVALUATION METHODS** (may include but are not limited to)
 - A. Attendance and participation
 - B. Assignments
 - C. Quizzes and exams