**Course Syllabus (10 weeks)**

**Course Title: Criminal Investigations Course Number:**

**Credit Hours: Course Length: 10 Weeks**

**Date: Course Schedule:**

**Prerequisite: Instructor:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

***Course Description:***

This course covers the fundamental principles and procedures employed in the investigation of crimes. It is a comprehensive introduction to criminal investigation, from the point of police responding to the crime, collection of evidence, and police reports. The course connects criminal investigation cases to the real world through innovative pedagogy, and encourages students to think critically. This course is designed to develop a working knowledge of the steps of investigation beginning with the initial security of the crime scene and concluding with the presentation of evidence.

## ***Course Materials***

* *Criminal Investigations*

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# *Course Assignments*

* **Exams** (50 points each – 200 points)

There are four (4) multiple-choice exams. The exams are not cumulative but will be based on the chapters presented immediately preceding each exam. The format for the exam may consist of some type of multiple choices, fill-ins the blanks, and/or essay questions that pertain to all of the information presented.

* **Instructor assignments** (10 points each – 100 points)

Assignments will be given out throughout the semester. Students are expected to complete each assignment and submit them on the due date.

* **“The Case” assignments** (10 points each for 100 points)

Students will complete “The Case” assignment at the end of each chapter. Students are expected to submit them on the due date.

* **Project Paper** (100 Points)

Students will write a research paper about a criminal procedures topic that is of interest to them. The paper will be in APA format and contain an introduction, the body of the research, and a conclusion. The paper must contain in-text citations from at least three sources. One of the sources must be the textbook.

***APA Style:***

Papers that you write in your program of study must follow the guidelines set by the American Psychological Association. (<http://apastyle.apa.org/>)

Long Island University: (<http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citapa.htm>)

Purdue Online Writing Lab: (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>)

Visit the Online Writing Lab (called OWL) whenever you have an APA question.

[APA Tutorial](http://www.apastyle.org/learn/%20) (<http://www.apastyle.org/learn/>) This tutorial teaches how to write using the APA format.

***Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism***

In the learning environment, professional attitude begins in the classroom. For that reason, students and faculty will not tolerate or commit any form of academic dishonesty. Any form of deception in the completion of assigned work is considered a form of academic dishonesty. This includes, but is not limited to:

* Copying work from any source.
* Assisting, or allowing another to assist you, to commit academic dishonesty.
* Any attempt to share answers whether during a test or in the submittal of an assignment.
* Any attempt to claim work, data or creative efforts of another as your own.
* Resubmitting graded assignments for use in multiple classes (recycling your work).
* Knowingly providing false information about your academic performance to the college.
* To avoid plagiarism, do not "copy and paste" into assignments without using quotation marks and citing, in APA format, the source of the material.

***Plagiarism***

* Papers that you write in your program of study must follow the guidelines set by the American Psychological Association (APA). Using another’s intellectual creation without permission or without giving appropriate credit is the academic equivalent of theft.

***Consequences of Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism***

All violations of academic policy are documented and made a part of the student's academic record. When academic dishonesty is confirmed, the student will immediately be notified of the incident, which may result in one or more of the actions listed below:

* Reduction in grade on the assignment on which the violation occurred
* No credit on the assignment, paper, test, or exam on which the violation occurred
* A failing grade for the course
* Suspension from the college

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| --- | --- |
| **Grade Categories** | **Total Points** |
| 4 Quarterly Exams | 200 |
| *Instructor Assignments (IA)* | 100 |
| The Case” Assignments | 100 |
| Project Paper | 100 |
| **Total:** | 500 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grading Scale** | | |
| **Letter**  **Grade** | **Point Scale** | **Interpretation** |
| A | 450-500 | Excellent |
| B | 400-449 | Good |
| C | 350-399 | Average |
| D | 300-349 | Below Average |
| F | Below 300 | Failed to Meet Course Objective |

**Class Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | Introduction  Overview of syllabus and course material  Ice breaker: “Who are you?”  Pre-Test  Chapter 1: Foundations of Criminal Investigations | During this first week you will be introduced to the course, given your *“The Case”* assignment, and walked through the syllabus. You will also be given the first *Instructor Assignment (IA)*. You will also receive clarification on the research paper so you can get started. You will view the first PowerPoint lecture and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points. Lastly, you will take a pre-test that is not graded.  Reading for next week: Ch 2 & 3 | *IA* #1 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 1  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2: The Crime Scene: Field Notes, Documenting, & Reporting  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 3: Processing the Crime Scene  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #1 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 2 & 3 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 4 & 5 | *IA* #2 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 2  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 3 | Chapter 4: Identifying Criminal Suspects: Field & Laboratory Process  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 5: Legal Issues in Criminal Investigations  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #2 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 4 & 5 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 6 & 7  **Exam 1** | *IA* #3 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 4  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 4 | Chapter 6: Interviews and Interrogations  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 7: Criminal Intelligence and Surveillance Operations  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #3 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 6 & 7 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 8 & 9 | *IA* #4 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 6  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 5 | Chapter 8: Informant Management and Undercover Operations  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 9: Death Investigations  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #4 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 8 & 9 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 10 & 11  **Exam 2** | *IA* #5 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 8  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 6 | Chapter 10: Robbery  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 11: Assault Related Offenses  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #5 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 10 & 11 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 12 & 13 | *IA* #6 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 10  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 7 | Chapter 12: Missing and Abducted Persons  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 13: Crimes Against Children: Child Abuse and Child Fatalities  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #6 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 12 & 13 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 14 & 15 | *IA* #7 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 12  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 8 | Chapter 14: Theft- Related Offenses  PowerPoint Lecture  Chapter 15: Arson and Bombings  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #7 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapters 14 & 15 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Reading for next week: Ch 16  **Exam 3** | *IA* #8 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 14  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 9 | Chapter 16: Terrorism and National Security Crimes  PowerPoint Lecture | During this class you will participate in a discussion about *IA* #9 & 10 & “*The Case*.” You will view a PowerPoint lecture for Chapter 16 and participate in class exercises and discussions to earn participation points.  Prepare for 4th Exam | *IA* #9 & #10 – *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  “*The Case*” for Chapter 14 & 16  *(10 points)*  Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Week 10 | **Exam 4** | **Exam 4** | **Exam 4** |

## **Class rules**

* Attendance

The requirement to attend class should not be taken lightly. Attendance is considered an important part of the course. Excessive unexcused absences will negatively impact on the classroom participation grade as well.

* Make-ups

Students who have scheduling conflicts with an exam are expected to make arrangements with instructor in advance. Students are allowed one make-up on an exam per semester. The make-up date and time will be announced by the instructor. There is no make-up on the final exam.

* Student Conduct

Students are responsible for knowing the regulations of the department, college, and university with regards to topics such as withdrawals, incomplete grades, student conduct, and academic misconduct (those who engage in any form of academic dishonesty will fail this course). Students may review these rules at: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* No use of cell phones will be allowed in the classroom.