



North Central State College  
MASTER SYLLABUS  
2019-2020

- A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts
- B. Discipline: Criminal Justice
- C. Course Number and Title: CRMJ1110 Criminal Investigations I
- D. Course Coordinator: Anne Strouth, Associate Professor, A.A.S., B.S., M.S.  
Assistant Dean: Dr. Steve Haynes

Instructor Information:

- Name: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Office Location: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Office Hours: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Phone Number: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- E-Mail Address [Click here to enter text.](#)

- E. Credit Hours: 3  
Lecture: 2 hours  
Laboratory: 3 hours
- F. Prerequisites: None
- G. Syllabus Effective Date: Fall, 2019
- H. Textbook(s) Title:

*Criminal Investigation: The Art and the Science*

- Author: Lyman, Michael
- Copyright Year: 2017
- Edition: 8<sup>th</sup>
- ISBN #: 9780134115276

- I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None
- J. Course Description: This course introduces the student to the study of investigative procedures beginning with the preliminary investigation through the follow-up phase. Additional topics covered within this course include documenting the crime scene, death investigations, interviewing techniques, evidence recognition, identification and collection. The laboratory experience will provide actual investigation situations to enhance student learning.

K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes

<b>College-Wide Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Assessments - - How it is met &amp; When it is met</b>
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	
Quantitative Literacy	Quantitative Literacy VALUE Rubric

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall: (any or all assessments can be conducted)

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Assessments – How it is met &amp; When it is met</b>
1. Differentiate between the three major types of evidence.	Exam, video reaction assignments, chapter discussion questions, critical thinking exercise – weeks 1-2
2. Determine the three primary responsibilities of the first responder to the crime scene.	Computer based case scenarios, research questions, exam, video reaction assignment – weeks 1-2 and week 15
3. Identify and reconstruct the crime scene search patterns.	Exam, lab exercises, lab observation, student demonstration – weeks 4-5
4. Identify and compose the information that should be included in the chain of custody records.	Exam, group work, lab exercises, lab observation – weeks 9-10
5. Identify the ten principles of collecting and preserving physical evidence.	Computer based case scenarios, exam, lab exercises, student demonstration - weeks 4,5,6
6. Given a mock crime scene, equipment, and blank reports, used by a police agency, the student will work in a small group and plan, organize, prepare, and process a crime scene, which will include: a. completing necessary reports, and developing search warrants b. diagramming and measuring the crime scene, c. and preparing a written case report of the case as well as an oral presentation of the case findings.	Mock crime scene analysis, lab exercise weeks 13-15
7. Prepare a rough sketch of a mock crime scene.	Lab exercises, lab observation, student demonstration – week 3 and week 15
8. Prepare a detailed court-ready drawing from a rough sketch of a mock crime scene.	Discussion questions, , lab check-offs, mock crime scene, exam, lab exercises, student demonstration- week 3 and week 15
9. Given a mock scenario, the student shall prepare and conduct a successful interview.	Lab exercise, student demonstration, mock crime scene analysis exercise, – week12 and week 15
10. Describe how to identify and obtain information from suspects and victims of crimes.	Video reaction assignment, student demonstration, research questions, lab exercise, exam – weeks 6,7,8
11. Prepare a search warrant utilizing a mock scenario.	Lab exercise, chapter discussion questions – weeks 9-10
12. Utilize the proper steps in effective note taking during the investigation of crimes.	Exam, lab exercise, student demonstration – weeks 2-3

M. Topical Timeline (Subject to Change):

1. Criminal Investigation (An Overview)
2. Investigative Photography and Crime-Scene Sketches
3. Investigative Notes and Reports
4. Searches
5. Physical Evidence
6. Obtaining Information
7. Evidence Collection
8. Identifying and Arresting Suspects/Photo Identification and Line-Ups
9. Preparing for and Presenting Cases in Court
10. Search Warrants
11. Biohazard Material
12. Interviewing Techniques
13. Death Investigations

Week One:

- Introduction
- Pretest
- Overview, Criminal Investigation

Week Two:

- Photography
- Field notes/Sketching

Week Three:

- Field notes
- Sketches
- Photography

Week Four:

- Searches/writing reports
- Evidence Collection

Week Five:

- Searches/writing reports
- Photography
- Evidence Collection

Week Six:

- Evidence/Obtaining Information
- Evidence Collections

Week Seven:

- Evidence/Obtaining Information
- Physical Evidence

Week Eight:

- Evidence/Obtaining Information
- Physical Evidence

Week Nine:

- Warrants and Preparing Cases for Court

Week Ten:

- Warrants and Preparing Cases for Court
- Biohazard Materials

Week 11: Death Investigations

- Interviewing Techniques

Week 12:

- Interviewing Techniques

Week 13:

- Final Lab Exercise-

Week: 14:

- Prep for Finals, Final Lab Exercises

Week 15:

- Prep for Finals, Final Lab Exercises

Week 16 Finals

N. Course Assignments:

1. Student Demonstrations
2. Hands-on lab exercises/observations
3. Mock crime scene analysis
4. Video Reaction Assignments
5. Critical Thinking Worksheets/Exercises/Case Scenarios
6. Chapter Discussion Questions
7. Research Questions
8. Progressive Exams

At a minimum the following labs will be conducted:

- Field Notes
- Sketching
- Photography
- Mock Crime
- Evidence Collection
- Case Scenarios/Evaluations
- Interviewing

O. Recommended Grading Scale:

<b>NUMERIC</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
93-100	A	4.00	Superior
90-92	A-	3.67	Superior
87-89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83-86	B	3.00	Above Average
80-82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77-79	C+	2.33	Average
73-76	C	2.00	Average
70-72	C-	1.67	Below Average
67-69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63-66	D	1.00	Below Average
60-62	D-	0.67	Poor
00-59	F	0.00	Failure

P. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

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Q. Examination Policy:

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R. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

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S. Classroom Expectations:

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T. College Procedures/Policies:

**Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the [syllabus supplement](#) located at <https://sharept.ncstatecollege.edu/committees/1/curriculum/SiteAssets/SitePages/Home/SYLLABUS%20SUPPLEMENT.pdf>**

**The information can also be found** Choose an item.