



CRJ 259: Introduction to Criminalistics

An introductory course in forensic science with emphasis on the recognition, collection, and analysis of physical evidence. Students participate in practical exercises utilizing appropriate lab equipment and field kits and investigate simulated crimes and introduce physical evidence at mock trials. Prerequisite: Grade of C- or higher in CRJ 101, CRJ 113, CRJ 219, CRJ 245, CRJ 251, and CRJ 258. Three lecture hours per week. Instructional Support Fee applies.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. To develop an understanding of the development of forensic sciences; its origin, advances, and trends for the future. 2. To become familiar with the functions and capabilities of the crime lab in its supportive role to the investigator. 3. To become acquainted with the legal and scientific considerations and procedures essential for effective collection, preservation and transmittal of physical evidence. 4. To learn how to properly "process" a Crime Scene. 5. To develop an awareness of the methods used by the Police and the Crime Lab in the analysis of physical evidence. 6. To be able to present the analysis of physical evidence in a Court of Law.

Credits: 3

Program: Criminal Justice