

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



MASTER SYLLABUS

JUST 202 - INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC CRIMINOLOGY

Created by: Michelle L. Currier, Ph.D.

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
FALL 2018**

- A. **TITLE:** Introduction to Forensic Criminology
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 202
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 credits. 3 hours lecture per week for 15 weeks
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **GER CATEGORY:** None
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall
- G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course introduces students to the various aspects and applications of the field of forensic criminology. Students explore types of criminological research, evidence, and forensic examination, as well as the role of forensic criminology in criminal investigations; prosecutions and the legal process; and corrections/offender supervision. Special attention is paid to evidence-based practice in the criminal justice and legal systems, with a focus on applying evidence to current and emerging justice-system problems or investigative casework.
- H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** None
- I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u>	<u>PSLO</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
a. Describe the field of forensic criminology and its various applications in the justice system.	PLO 1 – Apply standards of academic and professional discourse while speaking and writing.		1 - Communication [W]
b. Identify types of criminological research, evidence, and forensic examination, and the role of forensic criminology in policing/investigation, prosecution, and corrections/offender supervision	PLO 1 – Apply standards of academic and professional discourse while speaking and writing.		1 – Communication [W]
d. Identify and describe ethical issues for the forensic criminological practitioner	PLO 6 – Apply standards of ethical behavior in evidence-based practice in criminal justice contexts.		4 – Social Responsibility [ER}

KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes_____ No_X_____

K. **TEXTS:** [Selections from:]

National Institute of Corrections Information Center. (2017). Evidence-based practices in the criminal justice system. Retrieved from <https://s3.amazonaws.com/static.nicic.gov/Library/026917.pdf>.

Petherick, W., Turvey, B.E., & Ferguson, C.E. (2010). *Forensic criminology*. Burlington, MA: Academic Press. [free e-text via SLLC]

Spring, D.W., & Roberts, A.R. (2007). *Handbook of forensic mental health with victims and offenders: Assessment, treatment, and research*. New York, NY: Springer. [free e-text via SLLC].

L. **REFERENCES:**

M. **EQUIPMENT:** FLEX or hybrid delivery technology

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Papers
- Project/Presentation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:** (must use the outline format listed below)

- I. Introduction to Forensic Criminology
 - A. Defining Forensic Criminology: An Overview
 - B. The Legal and Justice Systems

- II. The Hierarchy of Research Evidence
- III. Forensic Examinations
 - A. Forensic Criminological Assessments
 - B. Criminal Profiling
 - C. Forensic Victimology
 - D. Forensic Criminology in Correctional Settings
 - E. Miscarriages of Justice
- IV. Investigations, Investigators, and Forensic Specialists
 - a. Law Enforcement Investigations
 - b. Criminal Defense
 - c. DNA, Forensic Science, and Forensic Scientists
 - d. Forensic Mental Health
- V. Forensic Criminology in Practice
 - a. Research, Report Writing, and Testimony
 - b. Ethics for the Forensic Criminologist