

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

CANTON, NEW YORK



COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 210 – Introduction to Forensic Investigations

Prepared By: Kelly Peterson

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Department of Criminal Justice

May 2020

JUST 210 – Introduction to Forensic Investigations

- A. **TITLE:** Introduction to Forensic Investigations
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 210
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** Two hours lecture and 2 hours lab per week.
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course familiarizes students with various forms of forensic evidence. The laboratory component of the course provides students an opportunity to process and analyze various forms of forensic evidence.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES:** None
- J. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**
By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
a. Analyze various forms of forensic evidence	2. Crit. Thinking
b. Describe items of evidence and their forensic value	2. Crit. Thinking
c. Prescribe the appropriate forensic analyses required for physical evidence	2. Crit. Thinking
d. Process various forms of forensic evidence	2. Crit. Thinking

K. TEXTS:

Erickson, E. (2014). *Criminalistics laboratory manual: The basics of forensic investigation*. Boston, MA: Anderson Publishing.

Houck, M. & Siegel, J. (2016). *Fundamentals of Forensic Science*. Boston, MA: Elsevier Publishing.

** Both books are imbedded in the course shell for free

L. REFERENCES:

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology Enhanced Classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Lab assignments
- Papers

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Physical evidence
 - A. Crime laboratory functions
 - B. Class characteristics
 - C. Individual characteristics
 - D. Legal considerations
- II. Preparation of crime scene sketches
 - A. Triangulation
- III. Forensic disciplines
 - A. Anthropology
 - B. Odontology
 - C. Fingerprints
 - D. Questioned documents
 - E. Footwear and Tires
 - F. Forensic Biology
 - G. Blood Spatter
 - H. Trace evidence
 - I. Forensic Chemistry/Drugs
 - J. Forensic Toxicology
 - K. Forensic Pathology

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:

- A. Crime Scene Sketching
- B. Autopsy and Wound Documentation
- C. Odontology
- D. Glass
- E. Fingerprints
- F. Footwear and Tire Impressions
- G. Toolmark Impressions
- H. Drug Chemistry
- I. Toxicology
- J. Blood and DNA
- K. Questioned Documents
- L. Blood Spatter