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

COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 300 – FORENSIC PHOTOGRAPHY

Reviewed By: Lisa E. Colbert

SCHOOL OF HEALTH, SCIENCE, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
MARCH 2016

FORENSIC PHOTOGRAPHY

A. TITLE: Forensic Photography

B. COURSE NUMBER: JUST 300

C. CREDIT HOURS: 3

D. WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE: No

E. COURSE LENGTH: 15 weeks

F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED: Fall and Spring

G. HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY: Two hours lecture and two hours lab per week.

H. CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This course provides an introduction to basic techniques, equipment, material and other aspects of crime scene photographs including theory and practice of photographic image formation and recordings. The course utilizes "hands-on" instruction with an emphasis on crime scene and evidence photography.

I. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES: Forty-five (45) credit hours in the Criminal Investigation, Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement Leadership, or Homeland Security, program, or permission of instructor.

J. GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):
By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

Course Objective	*Institutional SLO*
a. Describe and discuss the history of police photography and legal considerations in the use of digital photography.	2. Crit. Thinking
b. Describe and discuss the types of camera equipment used for forensic photography while comparing film and digital mediums.	1. Communication
c. Identify and photograph crime scenes and evidentiary items found within	3. Prof. Competence
d. Prepare administrative documents related to forensic photography.	1. Communication
e. Produce, secure and present satisfactory crime scene photographs.	3. Professional Competency

K. TEXTS: Duncan, C. D. (2015). *Advanced crime scene photography.* 2nd ed. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group.

L. REFERENCES: NA

M. EQUIPMENT:

- Technology enhanced classroom.
- All students are required to purchase their own camera. The recommended camera is the Canon EOS Rebel T5(EF-S 18-55 IS II-kit suggested). (Students may purchase a higher-level camera if they wish.) Substitutions must be cleared with the instructor prior to the class starting.
- A 2.0+ GB digital media [SD] card
- Flashlight.

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

N. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Photograph review

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Introduction
   a. Review of Basic Photographic Concepts
   b. History of forensic photography
   c. Court Decisions and Testifying

II. Photography Equipment and Options
   a. Cameras
   b. Digital versus Film
   c. Lenses, Filters and Attachments
   d. Tripods and Other Camera Supports
   e. Identification Markers
   f. Electronic and Strobe Flashes
   g. Cable Releases

III. Crime Scene Photography
   a. Bracketing
   b. Overall Crime Scene Photography
   c. Panoramic View Compositions
   d. Depth of Field

IV. Examination Quality Photographs

a. Scales
b. Fingerprint Photography
c. Footwear and Tire Impression Photography
    (1) Two-Dimensional Impressions
    (2) Three-Dimensional Impressions
d. Digital Imaging and Examination Quality Photographs

V. Nighttime and Low-Light Photography
a. Attributes of Light
b. Reciprocity Failure
c. Working Low-Light and Nighttime Crime Scenes

VI. Flash Photography
a. Guide Numbers
b. Flash Operation
c. Using Electronic Flash in Low-Light Conditions

VII. Painting With Light
a. Types of Lighting
    (1) Electronic flashes
    (2) Flashlights
    (3) Small Flashlights for Small Objects
    (4) Alternate Light sources

VIII. Bloodstain Photography
a. Complete Scene Documentation
b. Photographing Bloodstains on Different Surfaces
c. Electronic Flash and Bloodstain Evidence
d. Glass and Blood
e. Close Focusing
f. Luminal and Other Chemiluminescent Blood Reagents
g. Laser Levels and Bloodstain Documentation

IX. Photography of Shooting Incidents
a. Documenting Crime Scenes
b. Rods, Strings, and Lasers
    (1) Trajectory Rods
    (2) Strings
    (3) Lasers
    (4) Daytime Laser Reconstruction

X. Ultraviolet and Infrared Photography
a. Ultraviolet Photography
b. Forgery and Document Alterations
c. Fibers and Other Trace Evidence
d. Gunpowder Residue
e. Bodily fluids
f. Bruises and Bite Marks
g. Fingerprint Enhancements
h. Osseous Matter
i. Infrared Photography

j. Tattoo Documentation
k. Bloodstain Documentation
l. Gunshot Residue

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:

I. Getting to know your camera
II. Depth of field
III. Nighttime photography
IV. Bloodstain
V. Laser Reconstruction