MASTER SYLLABUS

JUST 300-FORENSIC PHOTOGRAPHY

Created by:
Updated by: Lisa Colbert

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CENTER FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE, INTELLIGENCE AND CYBERSECURITY
SPRING 2020
A. **TITLE:** Forensic Photography

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 300

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** no

E. **GER CATEGORY:** no

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring/Fall

G. **COURSE 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 photography, evidence photography, and surveillance photography.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**

a. Pre-requisite(s): 45 Credit hours in Criminal Investigation, CJ: Law Enforcement Leadership, Homeland Security or permission of instructor.

   b. Co-requisite(s):

   c. Pre- or co-requisite(s):

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</th>
<th>PSLO</th>
<th>GER</th>
<th>ISLO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Describe and discuss the history of police photography and legal considerations in the use of digital photography</td>
<td>(1359) 4-students will be able to demonstrate the procedure for processing a crime scene and planning an investigation</td>
<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>b. Describe and discuss the types of camera equipment used for forensic photography while comparing film and digital mediums.</td>
<td>(1359) 3-students will be able to identify, analyze and utilize various techniques used in a criminal investigation</td>
<td>1. Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Define and assess the evidentiary value of items found at a crime scene when photographing a crime scene.</td>
<td>(1359) 4-students will be able to demonstrate the procedure for processing a crime scene and planning a criminal investigation</td>
<td>5. Industry, Professional, discipline-specific knowledge and skills</td>
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| d. Prepare administrative
documents related to forensic photography. (1359) 1-students will be able to demonstrate written and verbal communication

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

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes___x___ No________


L. **REFERENCES:** N/A

M. **EQUIPMENT:**  
All students are required to purchase their own camera. The recommended camera is the Canon EOS Rebel T5 or newer (Students may purchase a higher-level camera if they wish.) Substitutions must be cleared with the instructor prior to the class starting via email at colbertl@canton.edu  
- Two 8.0+ GB digital media [SD] cards.  
- Flashlight – (3 C cell or 2 D cell minimum recommended)

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F
O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**
   - Exams
   - Quizzes
   - Photo submission and review
   - Administrative document review

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**
   I. Introduction
      a. Review of basic photographic concepts
      b. Creating a lasting impression
      c. Thinking outside the box
      d. Advance crime scene photography

   II. Photography Equipment and Options
      a. Cameras
      b. Digital versus film
      c. Lenses
      d. Lens filters and attachments
      e. Tripods and other camera supports
      f. Identification markers
      g. Electronic and strobe flashes
      h. Cable releases
      i. Lens attachments
      j. Hard cases, soft cases and backpacks

   III. Crime Scene Photography
      a. Preparation and general photography
      b. Capturing the impossible shot
      c. Bracketing
      d. Overall crime scene photography
      e. Panoramic view compositions
      f. Mid-range or relationship photography
      g. Depth of field
      h. Adding artistic flair
      i. Close-up photography
      j. Close-focused images recorded at the crime scene
      k. Close-up images captured after leaving the crime scene

   IV. Examination Quality Photographs
      a. Scales
      b. Fingerprint photography
      c. Footwear and tire impression photography
         i. One dimensional impressions
         ii. Two 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  
   i. Built-in or pop-up flash  
   ii. Off the camera electronic flash photography  
   iii. Benefits of flash photography  
c. Using electronic flash in low-light conditions  
   i. Directionality of light from electronic flashes  

VII. Painting with light  
a. Types of lighting  
   i. Electronic flashes  
   ii. Flashlights  
   iii. Small flashlights for small objects  
   iv. 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. The magically disappearing bloodstain  
f. Close-focusing  
g. Luminol and other chemiluminescent blood reagents  
   i. Bloodstains and colored substratum  

IX. Photographing shooting incidents  
a. Documenting the scene  
b. Rods, strings and lasers  
   i. Trajectory rods  
   ii. Strings  
   iii. Lasers  
   iv. 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. Semen, blood, and other bodily fluids
   f. Bruises and bite marks
   g. Fingerprint enhancements
   h. Osseous matter
   i. Infrared photography
   j. Forger and document alterations
   k. Tattoo documentation
   l. Bloodstain documentation
   m. Gunshot residue

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:
   N/A