

CJC 221
INVESTIGATIVE PRINCIPLES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: CJC 111, CJC 222

Corequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090, or satisfactory score on placement test

This course introduces the theories and fundamentals of the investigative process. Topics include crime scene and incident processing, information gathering techniques, collection and preservation of evidence, preparation of appropriate reports, court presentations, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to identify, explain, and demonstrate the techniques of the investigative process, report preparation, and courtroom presentation. Identified critical competencies will be covered and evaluated. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Lab, 2. Semester Hours Credit, 4.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- a. Define the role of the criminal investigator.
- b. Apply the proper format for investigation.
- c. Employ the appropriate legal constraint in investigation.
- d. Discuss types of records and documentation procedures for crime scenes.
- e. Demonstrate methods for searching the crime scene.
- f. Demonstrate the proper procedures for identifying, collecting, and preserving various types of physical evidence.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. The criminal investigation function
 - A. An overview
 - B. The preliminary investigation: basic considerations
 - C. Investigative equipment

- II. Investigative techniques
 - A. Investigative photography
 - B. Notes and reports
 - C. Crime scene sketches
 - D. Searches
 - E. Physical evidence
 - F. Obtaining information
 - G. Identifying and arresting suspects
 - H. Surveillance, undercover assignments, and raids

- III. Investigating crimes against persons
 - A. Robbery
 - B. Assault
 - C. Sex offenses
 - D. Crimes against children
 - E. Homicide

- IV. Investigating crimes against property
 - A. Burglary
 - B. Larceny/theft, fraud, and white-collar crime
 - C. Computer related crime
 - D. Motor vehicle theft
 - E. Arson

- V. Investigating other crimes
 - A. Organized crime
 - B. Drug buyers and sellers
 - C. Gangs and cults

- VI. The investigator's role in the judicial process
 - A. Nonprosecution
 - B. Closing a case by arrest and prosecution
 - C. Preparing a case for prosecution
 - D. The trial
 - E. Testifying: direct and cross-examinations

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS:

None required.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.