

Criminal Investigation

CJS 220
Fall 2007

Three Rivers Community College
Thames Campus
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

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Office: Mohegan Shop Building #10

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Office Hours:

M/W 1:00 to 4:00

Friday by appointment (Please email for appointments)

I. **Course Title:** Criminal Investigations

II. **Course Information:**

A. CJS K220

B. Location: Thames Campus Room: 224W

C. Day/Time: W 9:30 to 12:15 PM

III. **Course Description:**

This course is designed to make the student aware of the fundamentals of the criminal investigation. The student will learn the correct procedures and conduct at the crime scene, how to preserve evidence, and the chain of custody. Emphasis is on the responsibility of the first responder. Additionally, students will review documentation, preparation, and testimony in court.

IV. **Course Goals:**

The goal of this course is to give the student a basic understanding of the proper procedures involved in the criminal investigation process and the complexity of the investigative process. It is also a goal of this course to give the student a realistic expectation of the limits of scientific processes and an appreciation of the relationship between criminal/constitutional law and the investigatory process.

V. **Instructional Methods:**

A. Lecture

B. Discussion

C. Practical Exercises

VI. Required Text:

Criminal Investigation: The Art and the Science, by Michael D. Lyman, Fifth Edition,
Pearson Prentice Hall (2005)

VII. Disabilities Statement:

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 892-5751. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

VIII. Course Outline:

Week #1 - 08-29 Introduction to Course/Instructor Chapter 1

Week #2 - 09-05 Chapters 2 & 3

Week #3 - 09-12 Chapters 4 & 5

Week #4 - 09-19 Chapters 6 & 7

Week #5 - 09-26 Practical Fingerprinting and Tool Mark Exercises

Week #6 - 10-03 Chapter 8 & 9

Week #7 - 10-10 Chapter 10 & 11

Week #8 - 10-17 Mid-Term Exam

Week #9 - 10-24 Chapter 12 & 13

Week #10 -10-31 Chapter 14 & 15

Week #11 -11-01 Chapter 16 & 17

Week #12 - 11-07 Chapter 18 & 19 (Paper Due)

Week #13 - 11-14 Chapter 20 & 21

Week #14 - 11-21 No Class Thanksgiving Recess

Week #15 - 11-28 Chapter 22 & 23

Week #16 – 12-05 Final Exam

XI. Evaluation Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by a combination of exams, a short paper, and class participation.

Exams (2)	50% - 25% each
Paper	30%
Practical Exercise	10%
<u>Class Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
	100%

All grades will be posted on Vista. The grades will be expressed in a point value. For example: an exam is worth 25 points, a grade of between 0 and 25 points will be recorded. The total amount of points earned during the semester will correspond to the grade scale listed below.

The paper will be on an approved topic of the student's choice. The topic must be related to this specific course and must be approved by the instructor by 10-24-2007. The paper will be at least eight but no more than ten pages long.

The paper will be in APA style and will be written in Times New Roman 12 point type with standard margins. The paper will include a cover page that notes the title of the paper and all the relevant course and student information. Failure to use the APA format will result in a 25 point reduction in the paper grade.

The paper must have at least three references; one reference must be from an academic journal. Late papers will be penalized 10 points per week or part thereof.

Exams will be take home essay.

X. Final Grade Scale

A	=	94 - 100	D+	=	67 - 69	AU	=	Audit
A-	=	90 - 93	D	=	63 - 66			
B+	=	87 - 89	D-	=	60 - 62			
B	=	83 - 86	F	=	00 - 59			
B-	=	80 - 82						
C+	=	77 - 79	W	=	Withdrawal			
C	=	73 - 76	I	=	Incomplete			
C-	=	70 - 72	P / F	=	Pass / Fail			

XI. College Withdrawal Policy

A verbal “drop or withdrawal” from course(s) will be accepted through the 10th week of classes in accordance with the designated withdrawal deadlines. Students will need to provide the following information: full name, address, date of birth, student identification number and social security number, course reference number (CRN), description/subject and instructor’s name, if VA / FA benefits, Verbal drops or verbal withdrawals are processed through the Registrar’s Office and Subase site ONLY.

XII. Instructor’s Attendance Policy

Consistent attendance at class meetings is crucial to success in this course. You are expected to attend all classes in order to receive full benefit from instruction.

XIII. Academic Dishonesty

Conduct which as its intent or effect the false representation of a student’s academic performance and/or knowingly and intentionally assisting another student to do so in any way constitute academic dishonesty. In the event of academic dishonesty, the College’s policy will be enforced.

XIV. Cellular Phones etc.

Students are notified that cellular phones etc. are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class so that together they can arrive at an agreement.