



CRIMINAL JUSTICE III

Course Syllabus

Chester County High School

Course Title: Criminal Justice III

Instructor: Derald Swain

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TEXT: Forensic Science: Fundamentals and Investigations

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Forensic Criminal Investigations is the third course designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to be successful in the sciences of criminal investigations. Students will learn terminology and investigation skills related to the crime scene, aspects of criminal behavior, and applications of the scientific inquiry to solve crimes. By utilizing the scientific inquiry method, students will obtain and analyze evidence through simulated crime scenes and evaluation of case studies. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be able to identify careers forensic science and criminology, summarize the laws that govern the application of forensic science, and draw key connections between the history of the forensic science system and the modern legal system.

COURSE GOALS

- Basic understanding of evidence collection techniques
- Identify fingerprint patterns and dust/lift fingerprints from a crime scene
- Identify types of glass fragmentations at a crime scene
- Calculate the trajectory of blood spatter patterns
- Calculate the trajectory of bullet holes
- Identify human bones recovered from a crime scene
- Learn the basic techniques of hair analysis, document analysis, and phone record analysis
- Perform proper procedures for processing an active crime scene

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

#1 – Follow the student handbook.

#2 – Always be prepared and on time.

#3 – Always be respectful.

GRADING POLICY

Each Assignment will be assigned a specific number of points and the student's final grade in the class will be based on the accumulation of points during each quarter / semester. The grading scale will be;

100%-93% -A
92% - 85% - B
84%-75% -C
74% - 70% - D
69% and below – F

Grades will be posted when all students have completed the assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS AND CREDIT

Class Assignments:

Most assigned work will be completed in class. All assignments will be completed neatly and will be typed or hand written as directed. Sloppy work is not tolerated by law enforcement supervisors and will not be in class. Assignments will be completed on lined binder paper in pencil or pen. All creative projects, term papers and special topic reports will be typed, single spaced with a title page, narrative and reference page.

If a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to receive any work he/she may have missed. It is a good policy for students to have the phone number and e mail address of a responsible classmate that can keep them up to date on assignments they may have missed. Parents may also make homework requests through email. There will be no exceptions regarding assignments for those students involved in sports and extra-curricular activities. All assignments shall be turned in on the date they are due or prior. If you are unable to attend class due to a sporting or extracurricular activity, the required assignment will be turned in prior to the activity.

Extra Credit:

Rewards will be given to those students who demonstrate an extra effort in class. Extra credit is not offered arbitrarily and is not a make up for poor performance. Extra credit may mean the difference between a C to a B. Extra Credit assignments will be worth 5 points and will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. There is a maximum of one extra credit assignment per semester.

Quizzes and Tests:

Tests and quizzes will consist of multiple choices, true and false and short answer questions. These grading instruments will be administered at the end of each week and will measure the student's ability to recollect and recall the important issues of each module. Quizzes shall be administered at my discretion and might come without prior knowledge or warning.

Tests and quizzes will generally be announced and reviewed before their administration.

Failed quizzes and tests may be made up as soon as possible, or within one week of the student returning to class for a maximum of 70% passing grade.

SUPPLIES REQUIRED

1. Blue or black ink pen.
2. 3-ring binder to keep returned work and notebook paper.
3. College Ruled Paper
4. 1 inch Binder for Career Portfolio & (2) Dividers