

# **CJ241**

## **Criminal Investigation**

### **[Onsite]**

**Course Description:**

This course explores theoretical and practical aspects of criminal investigation and introduces the student to investigative processes, procedures and challenges.

**Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s):**

Prerequisite: CJ131 Introduction to Criminal Justice

**Credit hours: 4**

**Contact hours: 40 (40 Theory Hours)**

# SYLLABUS

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

Office hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Class hours: \_\_\_\_\_

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## MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS

1. History, structure, and content of criminal investigations
2. The role of evidence in criminal investigations, documentation and presentation of evidence
3. The law and criminal investigations
4. Tools used by criminal investigators
5. Issues involved in specific crime investigations (such as murder, sexual assault, arson, etc.)
6. The future of criminal investigation

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## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the process of criminal investigation.
2. Describe the different types of evidence, including physical, electronic, and circumstantial, and identify the role of each type of evidence in the criminal investigative process.
3. Discuss the major investigative techniques used in criminal investigation.
4. Discuss the role of deception by police investigators during interrogations and the investigative tools used for recognizing deception.
5. Describe the process of arresting a suspect.
6. Describe the factors related to investigating violent crime, including homicide, rape, robbery, and kidnapping.
7. Discuss the factors associated with investigating crimes related to property.

8. Describe the special process of investigating illegal drugs, vice, terrorism, and computer crimes.
9. Discuss the future possibilities of crime detection and criminal investigation.
10. Discuss the importance of investigator testimony in court proceedings following the completion of an investigation.
11. Discuss ethical challenges faced by investigators.
12. Apply investigative tools and resources to the criminal investigation process.
13. Assess various criminal investigative procedures and skills using the resources available on the ITT Tech Virtual Library.

## Related SCANS Objectives

1. Identify relevant facts and analyze information in a logical manner using resources and computers to locate and verify information.
2. Communicate orally and in writing, to effectively, completely, and accurately express ideas with proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
3. Identify common goals, understand the positions of others, and examine all possible options to problem-solving.
4. Assess personal knowledge and skills, set specific and realistic goals, and monitor progress toward those goals.
5. Identify problems, create and implement solutions, and revise solutions as necessary.

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## TEACHING STRATEGIES

The curriculum is designed to promote a variety of teaching strategies that support the outcomes described in the course objectives and that foster higher cognitive skills. For the delivery of the course, you can use various media and delivery tools in the classroom.

To ensure reinforcement of topics and continuation of ideas in each objective, discussion items, interactive activities, use of Internet references as well as the ITT Tech Virtual Library are included in each unit.

The following are the strategies used in this course:

- Students will use the resources available in the classroom to respond to the scenarios provided to highlight the unit teaching concepts.
- Students will explore the procedures and case laws associated with unit teaching concepts in group and team discussions or debates.
- Students will research the ITT Tech Virtual Library and the Internet for facts, theories, procedures, or case laws to use the wealth of information available and to prepare for discussions in the class.
- A course project will be designed to incorporate the knowledge and skills gained in the course units.

The overall assessment of students will be based on research and writing assignments, class participation, and a final project.

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## **COURSE RESOURCES**

### **Student Textbook Package**

- Weston, Paul B., and Charles A. Lushbaugh. *Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2009.

### **Student Kit**

- ITT Onsite Student Kit, #LK071ONSK, Crime Scene and Lab Supplies, Spex Forensics

## References and Resources

### ITT Tech Virtual Library

Log on to the ITT Tech Virtual Library (<http://www.library.itt-tech.edu/>) to access online books, journals, and other reference resources selected to support the ITT Tech curricula.

#### ■ General References

##### • Books

- ITT Tech Virtual Library> Main Menu> Books> Ebrary>
  - Eisen, Mitchell L., Jodi A. Quas, and Gail S. Goodman, eds. *Memory and Suggestibility in the Forensic Interview*. Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2002.
  
- ITT Tech Virtual Library> Main Menu> Books> Forensics & Criminal Justice NetBase>
  - Caddy, Brian, ed. *Forensic Examination of Glass and Paint: Analysis and Interpretation*. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2001.
  - Carney, Thomas P. *Practical Investigation of Sex Crimes: A Strategic and Operational Approach*. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2003.
  - Champod, Christophe, Pierre Margot, Chris Lennard, and Milutin Stoilovic. *Fingerprints and Other Ridge Skin Impressions*. Boca Raton, Florida: Taylor & Francis, 2004.
  - Eckert, William G. *Introduction to Forensic Sciences*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 1997.
  - Fisher, Barry A. J. *Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2004.
  - Horswell, John, ed. *The Practice of Crime Scene Investigation*. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2004.

- Madinger, John. *Confidential Informant: Law Enforcement's Most Valuable Tool*. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2000.
  - Robertson, James, ed. *Forensic Examination of Hair*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Taylor & Francis, 1999.
  - Robertson, James, and Michael Grieve, eds. *Forensic Examination of Fibres*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 1999.
  - Sherman, Hal, and Nicholas Petraco. *Illustrated Guide to Crime Scene Investigation*. Boca Raton, Florida: Taylor & Francis, 2006.
  - Walters, Stan B. *Principles of Kinesic Interview and Interrogation*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2002.
  - Zulawski, David E., and Douglas E. Wicklander. *Practical Aspects of Interview and Interrogation*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, 2002.
- ITT Tech Virtual Library> Main Menu> Books> NetLibrary>
    - Stephens, Otis H., and Richard A. Glenn. *Unreasonable Searches and Seizures: Rights and Liberties Under the Law*. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO, 2006.
    - Taylor, John B. *The Right to Counsel and Privilege Against Self-Incrimination: Rights and Liberties Under the Law*. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO, 2004.
  - **Periodicals**
    - ITT Tech Virtual Library> Main Menu> Periodicals>
      - EbscoHost (all)
      - ProQuest

## ■ **Other Resources**

- **Web sites**

- Findlaw.com U.S. Constitution Search  
<http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/constitution> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- Findlaw.com U.S. Supreme Court case opinion search page  
<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=us&navby=year&year=1978> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- International Association of Chiefs of Police Homepage  
<http://www.iacp.org> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation homepage  
<http://www.fbi.gov> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- Crime Magazine homepage  
<http://www.crimemagazine.com> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- Law Research homepage  
<http://www.lawresearch.com> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- SPEX Forensics homepage  
<http://www.spexforensics.com> (accessed December 28, 2009)
- PoliceOne homepage <http://www.policeone.com/>  
(accessed December 28, 2009)

All links to Web references outside of the ITT Tech Virtual Library are always subject to change without prior notice.

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## **EVALUATION & GRADING**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **1. Attendance and Participation**

Regular attendance and participation are essential for satisfactory progress in this course.

#### **2. Completed Assignments**

Each student is responsible for completing all assignments on time.

### 3. Team Participation (if applicable)

Each student is responsible for participating in team assignments and completing the delegated task. Each team member must honestly evaluate the contributions by all members of their respective teams.

## Evaluation Criteria Table

The final grade will be based on the following weighted categories:

| CATEGORY             | WEIGHT      |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Writing Assignments  | 30%         |
| Research Assignments | 35%         |
| Course Project       | 35%         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>100%</b> |

## Grade Conversion Table

Final grades will be calculated from the percentages earned in class as follows:

| Grade | Percentage | Credit |
|-------|------------|--------|
| A     | 90-100%    | 4.0    |
| B+    | 85-89%     | 3.5    |
| B     | 80-84%     | 3.0    |
| C+    | 75-79%     | 2.5    |
| C     | 70-74%     | 2.0    |
| D+    | 65-69%     | 1.5    |

| Grade | Percentage | Credit |
|-------|------------|--------|
| D     | 60-64%     | 1.0    |
| F     | <60%       | 0.0    |

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## COURSE OUTLINE

### Notes

- **Unit 1:** All the concepts will be covered in the class; therefore, the specified readings are merely for your reference.
- **For all units, except unit 1:** It is recommended that you complete the readings before attending the class.
- In addition to general in-class activities, all discussion questions will be graded under the Participation evaluation category.

| Unit #                      | Activities for the unit  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1–The Initial Investigation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 1, “The Initial Investigation,” pp. 3-23</li> <li>▪ Chapter 4, “Recording the Crime Scene,” pp. 63-76</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> </ul>  |
| 2–Types of Evidence         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 2, “Direct and Circumstantial Evidence,” pp. 27-47</li> <li>▪ Chapter 4, “Recording the Crime Scene,” pp. 76-81</li> <li>▪ Chapter 5, “Laboratory and Technical Services,” pp. 85-99</li> <li>▪ Chapter 6, section titled “Informants,”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Unit #                                     | Activities for the unit  |
|--|--|
|  | <p style="text-align: center;">pp. 118-123</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 10, section titled "Case Preparation," pp. 195-199</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> </ul>  |
| 3—Development of Investigative Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 6, "Basic Investigative Leads and Informants," pp. 103-117</li> <li>▪ Chapter 7, "Major Investigative Techniques," pp. 133-151</li> <li>▪ Chapter 8, "Interviewing and the Detection of Deception," pp. 155-167</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> <li>• Course Project Parts 1 and 2: Introduction</li> </ul> |
| 4—Police Interrogations                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 9, "Interrogation of Suspects," pp. 171-182</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> </ul>  |
| 5—Suspect Identification and Arrest        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 10, "The Arrest of the Accused Person," pp. 185-205</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Writing Assignments: 1 and 2</li> </ul>   |
| 6—Investigation of Violent Crimes          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |

| Unit #   | Activities for the unit   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 11, "Physical Assaults," pp. 211-235</li> <li>▪ Chapter 12, "Sexual Assaults," pp. 239-255</li> <li>▪ Chapter 13, "Robbery," pp. 259-271</li> <li>▪ Chapter 14, "Arson, Bombings, and Hate Crimes," pp. 275-291</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> </ul>   |
| 7–Property Crimes  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 15, "Property Crimes," pp. 293-323</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> </ul>  |
| 8–Special Investigations: Illegal Drugs, Vice, and Terrorism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 16, "Dangerous Drugs," pp. 327-348</li> <li>▪ Chapter 17, "Special Investigations," pp. 351-368</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> </ul>  |
| 9–Future of Criminal Investigations                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 3, "Rules of Evidence," pp. 51-58</li> <li>▪ Chapter 18, "Terrorism," pp. 371-385</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ ITT Tech Virtual Library &gt; School Of Study &gt; School of Criminal Justice &gt; Recommended Links &gt; Articles &gt; Excerpts from <i>Criminal Investigation: An Analytical Perspective:</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Unit #                               | Activities for the unit   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
|                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 14, "The Future of Criminal Investigation," pp. 405- 425</li> <li>• Writing Assignment: 1</li> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> </ul>   |
| 10–Police Testimony                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 19, "The Investigator As Witness and Ethical Awareness," pp. 389- 395</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Research Assignment: 1</li> <li>• Course Project Part 1: Submission</li> </ul> |
| 11–Ethics in Criminal Investigations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Covered           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Criminal Investigation: Basic Perspectives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 19, "The Investigator As Witness and Ethical Awareness," pp. 395- 400</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Course Project Part 2: Submission</li> </ul>                                   |