

Criminalistics III (CJSA 2332 1A1)

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the practical aspects of criminalistics procedures. Topics include crime scene investigation, collecting and preserving evidence, and testifying in court.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Conduct a crime scene investigation under simulated circumstances.
2. Demonstrate proper methods of identifying, collecting, preserving evidence for crime laboratory analysis.
3. Demonstrate proper courtroom demeanor and methods of testifying.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dennis White

Email: dwhite@lit.edu

Office Phone: 409-247-5277

Office Location: Technology Center Building Room 214

Office Hours: By Appointment

MONDAY: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

TUESDAY: 10:00 am – 10:30 am; 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

WEDNESDAY: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

THURSDAY: 10:00 am – 10:30 am; 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

FRIDAY: 8:30 am – 10:00 am

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

TCOLE #2106 Crime Scene Search Curriculum (updated)

PROVIDED BY COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Approved: August 2024



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE POLICY

Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

Below scheduled dates subject to change.

WEEK	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
1	Introduction/Orientation	September 18, 2026	September 18, 2026
2	Digital & Ink Fingerprinting	September 18, 2026	September 18, 2026
3	Photography & Lighting	September 18, 2026	September 18, 2026
4	Latent Prints	September 18, 2026	September 18, 2026
5	Latent Prints	October 16, 2026	October 16, 2026
6	Latent Prints	October 16, 2026	October 16, 2026
7	Latent Prints	October 16, 2026	October 16, 2026
8	Wet Evidence, Arson, Firearms	October 16, 2026	October 16, 2026
9	Searches, Sketches, Reports, Testimony	November 13, 2026	November 13, 2026
10	Crime Scene #1	November 13, 2026	November 13, 2026
11	Crime Scene #2	November 13, 2026	November 13, 2026
12	Crime Scene #3	November 13, 2026	November 13, 2026
13	Crime Scene #4	December 1, 2026	December 1, 2026
14	Holiday	December 1, 2026	December 1, 2026
15	Testimony/Wrap up– JOURNALS DUE	December 1, 2026	December 1, 2026
16	Testimony/Wrap up– JOURNALS DUE	December 1, 2026	December 1, 2026

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Tests	10%
2. Participation/Attendance	10%
3. Assignments	30%
4. Crime Scene Project(s)	50%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT*

Catalog and Student Handbook. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

AI STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into the classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

1. Proper classroom decorum must always be maintained.
2. No DISRUPTIONS will be tolerated, and, in this classroom, we will respect one another's right to learn.
3. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
4. Cell phones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
5. Do not bring children to class.
6. Do not walk out of class early without talking to me before the class begins.
7. **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL BE DEALT WITH MOST STRICTLY!** - An automatic F for the semester, plus a report will be filed.
8. Makeup exams will not be given, unless arranged for in advance. If you miss an exam (including the final) for any reason, without making arrangements with me prior to the exam, you will receive a zero on that exam. All exams will be taken on Blackboard.
9. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.

10. Attendance is expected and required. Participation/Attendance – Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.
11. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.