



CRJU 3320—CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS COURSE SYLLABUS

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Required Text: Lyman, M. (2013). Criminal Investigation (1st ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Publishing. (or 2nd ed).

Course Description: This course presents the fundamentals of criminal investigation. The duties and responsibilities of the investigator both in field and in the courtroom are highlighted. Emphasis is placed on techniques commonly utilized by investigative personnel as well as the procedures used for investigating various crimes.

Competency Areas:

Discuss the legal issues in criminal investigations.
Discuss the basic concepts of investigatory work.
Describe the fundamental techniques used in criminal investigation.
Examine surveillance the techniques.
Explain the process used for suspects and/or victim identification.
Describe the techniques used to investigate child abuse.
Discuss the methods used to investigate robbery.
Distinguish the proper method used to investigate, narcotics and dangerous drugs.
Describe the manner of processing crime scenes in vehicles.
Explain the practices for investigatory burglary.
Describe identify procedures for investigating sex crimes.
Compare and contrast the investigative techniques of homicide and suicide.
Role of the investigator fundamental investigative techniques.
Felony investigation procedures describe the role of criminal investigators in the filed and courtroom.
Discuss the legal issues in the criminal investigations.
Discuss the basic concepts of investigatory work.
Describe the fundamental techniques used in criminal investigations.
Examine surveillance techniques.

Grading Scale:

Grades are issued at the end of each quarter. All grades earned will be reflected on and remain on the official academic transcript. The following grading scale is used:

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

Grading Criteria:

Final Grades for this course will be calculated as follows:

Homework/Assignments	300
Exams	400
Class participation	20

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance and participation is expected.

Attendance for classes, which meet one (1), time per week: Missing three (3) class periods will result in the lowering of the course grade by one (1) letter grade. Missing four (4) class periods will result in an "F" (this includes arriving late or leaving early). Exceptions will be made for emergencies only (Emergencies will be limited to death in the immediate family, student, or student's children in the hospital or court subpoena along with proper written documentation of this event). Additionally for each time a person is late for class or leaves early, a half of a point will count negatively toward the point assessment of missing classes (i.e. If a person is late on two occasions, they have missed one full point counting toward the number of classes missed).

Attendance will be taken and random and at the discretion of the professor. The participation is heavily enforced in this class.

Academic Integrity:

The Undergraduate Catalog contains the general policies and regulations on the Academic Honesty policy. I advise you to read and follow the academic policy. The bottom line: Do The Right Thing! Plagiarism equals an "F."

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate catalogs. Section II of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedures, which may subject a student to the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Classroom Policies and Procedures:

Regular class attendance and participation imply preparation. Students are expected to keep current with reading assignments and to demonstrate preparation in both discussions and assigned projects. Cell phones can be a major distracter in the learning environment. It is required that all cell phones be turned off during class. If a student is found to be using a cell phone while instruction is occurring, the student may be asked to leave and will be counted absent for that day. If you have a situation that requires the use of a cell please contact your instructor prior to class. Laptop computers will be used only at times designated by the instructor for in-class research projects. They are not to be used for any other purpose or times because they are a major distracter in the learning environment and are often used for purposes other than note taking. Please bring your laptop to class to be able to assess the internet upon the permission of the instructor. Additionally, students may choose to bring a thumb drive to class to save their information. Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments must notify me as soon as possible. Verification from KSU disabled Student Support Services is required. All discussions will remain confidential. Recording of lectures is not permitted without written permission from the instructor.

Class Assignments:

Discussion assignments, quizzes throughout the semester, and an interview with a police administrator, research paper, and presentation are also required. Assignments that are required in paragraph format will follow **APA guidelines**. We will have guest speakers throughout the semester. It is requested of students to be professional, come prepared to class and participate in class discussions with the speakers. This is a great way to network--so take advantage of it!

Student Rights and Responsibilities

As a student with a disability attending Kennesaw State University, what services do I have the right to receive?

- Reasonable accommodations based on appropriate documentation.
- Equal access to an education.
- Equal and fair treatment.
- Confidentiality in all matters of your documentation and educational record.

Additional information on student rights and responsibilities are found at

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/rights.php>

Class Project: THE CASE

Students will be assigned to a role of responding officer, investigator, or crime scene tech. Throughout the semester, you will be given clues and information regarding a criminal case that has happened in Georgia.

You are to take notes regarding the case and write a paper in your assigned perspective. The paper will be due at the assigned time in the semester. If you apply the correct knowledge, skills, and resources; you will be "EXEMPT" from the Final Exam. There will be a presentation of the case as well.

The paper is written in the form of APA format with at least four (4) sources. The paper will also have supplements, attachments, and possible pictures of evidence and information. You should be able to determine a suspect, how the crime was committed and what your testimony would be to judge and/or jury in the case.

It is undetermined page number or word count. However, the full focus of the investigation must be articulated thoroughly in your paper.

Class Schedule:

Week 1: Introductions, course syllabus overview

Chapter 1—Foundations of criminal investigations

Week 2: Chapter 1 – Foundations of criminal investigations
Chapter 2—The crime scene

Week 3: Chapter 3—Processing the crime scene

Week 4: Chapter 4—Identification of criminal suspects, Quiz chapters 1-3

Week 5: Chapter 5—Legal issues in criminal investigations

Week 6: Chapter 6—interviews and interrogations

Week 7: Chapter 7—Criminal intelligence and surveillance operations, Quiz chapters 4-6

Week 8: Chapter 8—Management of informants and undercover operations

Week 9: Chapter 9—Death investigations

Week 10: Chapter 10—Robbery, Quiz chapters 8 and 9

Week 11: Chapter 11—Assault and related offenses

Week 12: Chapter 12—Missing and abducted persons, Quiz chapters 10 and 11

Week 13: Chapter 13—Crimes against children

Week 14: Chapter 14—Theft-related offenses, Quiz chapters 12 and 13

Week 15:

Week 16: Chapter 15—Arson and bombings

Chapter 16—Terrorism and national security crimes
Final Quiz, chapters 14-16

***THE SYLLABUS AND COURSE OUTLINE PROVIDE A GENERAL PLAN FOR THE COURSE. DEVIATION FROM THIS PLAN MAY BE NECESSARY AND IS UP THE DISCRETION OF THE PROFESSOR. ***

****Please note there will not be a midterm exam or final exam. You will have a series of quizzes throughout the semester that are broken into various subsections of the book. These will all apply towards 40% of your grade****

