

**AJ 51A Course Outline as of Spring 2012****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: AJ 51A Title: BASIC CRIMNL INVEST

Full Title: Basic Criminal Investigation

Last Reviewed: 12/13/2021

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Basic principles of criminal investigation and evidence as they apply to the justice system.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

Course Completion of AJ 22, AJ 51, and AJ 55

**Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Basic principles of criminal investigation and evidence as they apply to the justice system. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of AJ 22, AJ 51, and AJ 55

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective: Fall 1981	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: AJ 140 Criminal Investigation  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): AJ57

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Certificate Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

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

1. Describe the basic steps in conducting a preliminary investigation.
2. Evaluate the legal aspects of admissions and confession and give examples of when a statement is legally obtained.
3. Formulate the basic steps in preparing for an interview or an interrogation in conducting a criminal investigation.
4. Identify and list the evidentiary and legal aspects of an infield showup, photographic lineup, physical lineup, and other non-witness methods of identification.
5. Compile a list of investigative resources available on the local, state and federal level.
6. Illustrate examples of the theory of transfer involving physical evidence at a crime scene.
7. Analyze the role of various expert witnesses that can assist in a criminal investigation.
8. Analyze the legal steps in conducting a crime scene search.
9. Determine the investigative aspects of search and seizure.
10. Determine the investigative aspects of corpus delicti.

### **Topics and Scope:**

1. Introduction to preliminary investigation
  - a. Proceeding to the scene
  - b. Rendering aid to the injured
  - c. Arresting of the suspect
  - d. Locating and identifying witnesses
  - e. Interviewing witnesses
  - f. Securing the crime scene
  - g. Interrogating the suspect
  - h. Noting crime scene conditions and events
  - i. Arranging for the collection of evidence
  - j. Report writing
  - k. Yielding to follow-up investigators
2. Investigative aspects of search and seizure

- a. Emergency searches of crime scenes
- b. Crime scene search warrants
- c. Administrative, probation and parole searches
- d. Legal aspects in the physical seizure of evidence
3. Investigative aspects of admissions and confessions
  - a. Miranda Rule
  - b. Admonition and waiver of rights
  - c. Counsel issues
  - d. Questioning after assertion of rights
  - e. When Miranda does not apply
  - f. Miranda and minors
  - g. Attenuation and impeachment
4. Investigative aspects of identification methods
  - a. Infield showup
  - b. Photographic lineup
  - c. Physical lineup
  - d. Other non-witness methods of identifications
5. Investigative aspects of corpus delicti - common crimes
  - a. Murder and manslaughter
  - b. Robbery
  - c. Rape and sex crimes
  - d. Aggravated assault
  - e. Cohabitation abuse
  - f. Burglary
  - g. Theft
  - h. Review of Evidence Code provisions relating to criminal investigations
6. Investigative resources
  - a. California Department of Justice
  - b. Criminalistics - Bureau of Forensic Services
  - c. Federal resources
  - d. Local resources - task force operations
  - e. Expert witnesses

**Assignment:**

1. Read 10 - 20 pages weekly
2. Written assignments including analysis of corpus delicti of California criminal law, case briefs, criminal procedures pertaining to search, seizure, arrest, and evidence (4-8 assignments)
3. Completion of course workbook on investigative procedures and rules
4. Group research project and presentation
5. Two to three exams

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework and research project
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Writing 20 - 40%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Workbook problems and research project presentation

Problem solving  
15 - 30%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Exams

Exams  
35 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category  
0 - 0%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

California Criminal Evidence Guide (8th). Hill, Raymond. Halleck Creek Publishing: 2010

California Criminal Evidence Guide: Student Workbook, Bowling, Ray. Halleck Creek Publishing, 2010

California Penal Code. State of California: current annual edition

Instructor prepared materials