

**AJ 51A Course Outline as of Fall 2004****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:**

Completion of AJ 50, 54 and 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: Completion of AJ 50, 54 and 55.

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU; (CAN AJ8)

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:

**CSU Transfer:** Transferable      Effective:      Fall 1981      Inactive:

**UC Transfer:**      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. Define basic investigative vocabulary as prescribed by Learning Domain #30 (Preliminary Investigation) prescribed by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.
9. Analyze the legal steps in conducting a crime scene search.
10. Determine the investigative aspects of search and seizure.
11. Determine the investigative aspects of corpus delicti.

### **Topics and Scope:**

1. Introduction to preliminary investigation
  - a. Proceed to the scene promptly but safety
  - b. Render aid to the injured
  - c. Effect arrest of the suspect
  - d. Locate and identify witnesses

- e. Interview witnesses
  - f. Maintain the crime scene
  - g. Interrogate the suspect
  - h. Note all crime scene conditions and events
  - i. Arrange for the collection of evidence
  - j. Report writing
  - k. Yield 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 doesn't apply?
    - f. Miranda and minors
    - g. Attenuation and impeachment
  4. Investigative aspects of lineups, showups, and other methods of identification
    - 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. Two mid-term examinations consisting of 50-75 multiple-choice questions.
2. Twelve written assignments on the corpus delicti of crimes, laws of arrest, case law pertaining to search and seizure and Miranda, and relevant provisions of the California Evidence Code which apply in a criminal investigation.
3. Four written assignments covering internet research on resources

applicable to a criminal investigation.

4. Final Examination - group oral from prepared questions evaluated by an oral board comprised of experienced investigators.

5. Completion of a course workbook on investigative areas of Search and Seizure, Miranda, and Methods of Identification.

### 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, Internet research assignment.

Writing  
20 - 40%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems

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.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Short essay;  
Oral Board examination

Exams  
35 - 60%

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

Workbook exercises.

Other Category  
5 - 10%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION, Basic Course Student Workbook, LD#30, Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, State of California, current edition.

CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL EVIDENCE GUIDE, 6th or 7th Edition, Raymond Hill, Halleck Creek Publishing, 2003.

CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL EVIDENCE GUIDE, Student Workbook, Ray Bowling, Halleck Creek Publishing, 2003.

CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE, current edition.