

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: AJ 154

Title: ADVANCED CRIMNL INVEST

Full Title: Advanced Criminal Investigation

Last Reviewed: 11/7/2011

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	6	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: AJ 51B

**Catalog Description:**  
Advanced principles in major felony investigations with an emphasis on identification, collection, and preliminary processing of physical evidence. Includes the application of investigative techniques, trial preparation, and courtroom presentation.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**  
Course Completion of AJ 57 ( or AJ 54B or AJ 51A)

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: Advanced principles in major felony investigations with an emphasis on identification, collection, and preliminary processing of physical evidence. Includes the application of investigative techniques, trial preparation, and courtroom presentation. (Grade Only)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of AJ 57 ( or AJ 54B or AJ 51A)  
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit:

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>		Effective:	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Certificate Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

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

1. Demonstrate the proper techniques of identifying, collecting, and preserving physical evidence in major felony investigations.
2. Apply proper techniques for protecting a crime scene.
3. Recognize appropriate measures for packaging various types of evidence.
4. Employ the principles of a safe and proper crime scene survey and search.
5. Analyze the nature and physical properties of various categories of evidence.
6. Examine the use of fingerprints, ballistics, trace, and DNA evidence.
7. Prepare an incident/crime report including a sketch and evidence report.
8. Identify proper procedures and responses for courtroom testimony and presentation of evidence.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Identifying, Collecting and Preserving Evidence
  - A. Scene survey
  - B. Document location of all evidence
  - C. Photograph all evidence prior to collection
  - D. Protect at-risk evidence
  - E. Collection, measuring, lighting equipment
  - F. Personal safety
- II. Crime Scene Protection
  - A. Establish inner and outer perimeter
  - B. Assign personnel
  - C. Use of various types of physical barriers
  - D. Locating evidence
- III. Packaging Evidence
  - A. Proper equipment

- B. Types of container and packaging material
- C. Specialty kits
- IV. Crime Scene
  - A. Initial survey
  - B. Search pattern
  - C. Contamination avoidance
  - D. Evidence identification
- V. Categories of Evidence
  - A. Trace
  - B. Transfer
  - C. At-risk
- VI. Fingerprints, Ballistics and DNA
  - A. Identification of suspect and victim
  - B. Elimination of possible suspect
  - C. Identification of evidence
- VII. Incident/Crime Report
  - A. Essential elements of a homicide investigative report
  - B. Importance and use of crime scene sketch
  - C. Evidence reporting
- VIII. Courtroom Testimony and Presentation
  - A. Preliminary considerations
  - B. Testimony preparation
  - C. Testifying
  - D. Cross-examination tactics
  - E. Follow-up investigations

### Assignment:

1. Six written homework assignments including research of investigative techniques, procedures, investigative statutes, and case laws
2. Performance tests in physical evidence identification and collection (group exercises)
3. Class participation and attendance
4. Weekly reading and application of legal resources
5. Final examination - written research paper and group presentation
6. Notebook containing lecture notes and homework assignments

### 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, notebook	Writing 10 - 20%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework	Problem solving 10 - 30%
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**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class presentation, crime scene investigation

Skill Demonstrations  
20 - 40%

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

Research paper

Exams  
20 - 35%

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

Attendance and participation

Other Category  
5 - 10%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Criminal Investigation (10th). Swanson, C., N. Chamelin, L. Territo, and R. Taylor. McGraw Hill: 2011.

Instructor prepared materials