

# Imperial Valley College

## Administration of Justice

### Course Syllabus

**COURSE NO.**  
AJ 222 (CRN 10736)

**COURSE TITLE**  
Criminal Investigations

**INSTRUCTOR**

Edward Wells - Room 211

Office Room 209 Phone: (760) 355-6279

Office Hours: **T/W/R 5:30 to 6:30pm**  
[Edward.Wells@Imperial.edu](mailto:Edward.Wells@Imperial.edu)

**TEXTBOOKS**

Criminal Investigation 10<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Swanson, Chamelin, Territo and Taylor  
McGraw Hill– Publishers, Inc.

*\*\*Recommended Additional Text*  
*California Penal Code 2012*

**TERM**

Fall 2012

**UNITS**

3

**CLASS TIMES**

Tuesday/Thursday 3:05pm - 4:30pm

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an advanced course dealing with the historical development of the law enforcement criminal investigation process. Utilizing current industry standards and investigative tools and techniques to explain and explore the modern investigative process. Detailing constitutional provisions; definitions and the classifications of criminal investigation, the student will develop an understanding of investigative theory and the legal processes involved in criminal investigation. The student will learn practical applications of legal research, study of case law, methodology, and concepts of law required during the investigative process. Additionally, investigations involving crimes against persons, property, government, and organized crime are discussed.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

1. Explain the basics of criminal investigation.
2. Understand the history and legal requirements/restrictions of criminal investigations.
3. Recognize the definitions and classifications of crimes investigations.
4. Understand what legal protections are afforded to someone under investigation.
5. Understand the various types of investigations and the resources available for the criminal investigator.
6. Understand the importance of Interviewing vs. Interrogation and the responsibilities of the criminal investigator.

## **GRADING PROCEDURE:**

Total Points:	<b>600 points</b>
<b>Tests:</b> Seven tests at 50 points each =	<b>350 points</b>
<b>Group Project and Presentation:</b> 10 minute Presentation =	<b>50 points</b>
<b>Term Paper:</b> (Interview and Interrogation) =	<b>50 Points</b>
<b>Final Exam</b> =	<b>100 Points</b>
<b>Class attendance/participation in discussions, or activities</b> =	<b>50 Points</b>
<b>*Bonus (Approved by Instructor)</b> =	<b>50 Points</b>

**A = 540-600    B = 480-539    C = 410-479    D = 350-409    F = 0-349**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Assignments are due on the date stated on the syllabus. Late assignments are subject to reduction of points. Make every effort to turn in assignments on time or you may receive a zero for that assignment.

Failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam unless prior approval is given by the instructor. Exams will be thirty minutes long and will be given at the start of class. If you are late to class, you will not be given extra time to take the exam. Bring a No. 2 Pencil and Scantron form to class on exam days.

You must communicate to your instructor any problems that you are having with the course.

**ATTENDANCE:** One of the institutional learning outcomes at IVC is personal responsibility. You will be expected to demonstrate personal responsibility by attending class, showing up on time, and not leaving early. You will be allowed two absences from class before the drop deadline. Do not assume you will be dropped for non-attendance. Missing more than half a class session will count as a full absence. *(It remains your responsibility to drop yourself from all courses that you no longer attend, or you risk getting a failing grade on your transcript.)* Refer to page 15 of your Fall Class Schedule 2012 catalogue for “ATTENDANCE AND AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS”; you are RESPONSIBLE!

**ACADEMIC ETHICS:** Cheating is defined as copying answers from another student on an exam or assignment, allowing another student to copy answers from you, turning in work as your own that someone else did for you, working with another student on an assignment with the instructor’s express consent, or turning in a writing assignment that uses another’s words or ideas without crediting the source of the words or ideas.

**PLAGIRISM will not be tolerated!** If a student uses the words or ideas of another person without giving that person credit, the student is committing an act of plagiarism.

**CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** Anyone caught cheating will get a zero for the assignment or exam and may be dropped from the class with the grade of **“F”**.

**PARTICIPATION:** Every student is expected to participate in class discussion each week. This includes punctuality, contributions, personal opinions, group efforts if assigned and discussion of issues relating to the current assignment of the class. Newspaper article discussions on how local crime impacts our community, state and federal levels.

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:** Any conduct that disrupts the learning process cannot be tolerated. Anyone engaging in such conduct will be asked to leave the classroom. Talking, whispering, loud yawning, and cell phones ringing during class are examples of disruptive behavior because such actions are disrespectful and distracting to the instructor and to other students. Respect your fellow students and instructors at all times. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WHILE IN CLASS!**

**NOTICE:** Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP & S) Office as soon as possible. [SDP&S, Health Sciences Building 2100, Phone: (760) 355-6312]

**AJ 222 Criminal Investigations**  
(Tuesday/Thursday 3:05 to 4:30 pm)

**Class Schedule:**

Tuesday	08/21/12	Evolution of Investigation and Criminalists
Thursday	08/23/12	Legal Aspects of Investigation
Tuesday	08/28/12	Review material for Research Project - <b>Test #1:</b>
Thursday	08/30/12	Investigative Process
Tuesday	09/04/12	Crime Scene and Physical Evidence
Thursday	09/06/12	Review material for Research Project - <b>Test #2:</b>
Tuesday	09/11/12	Research Project – Chapter 5
Thursday	09/13/12	Research Project – Chapter 5
Tuesday	09/18/12	Reporting and Notes – <b>Turn in Research Project (Term Paper)</b>
Thursday	09/20/12	Follow-Up Investigations and Resources
Tuesday	09/25/12	Crime Lab and Resources
Thursday	09/27/12	Review material for Presentation Project - <b>Test #3:</b>
Tuesday	10/02/12	Investigations – Injury and Death
Thursday	10/04/12	Investigations – Sexual Assaults
Tuesday	10/09/12	Investigations – Crimes Against Children
Thursday	10/11/12	Review material for Presentation Project - <b>Test #4:</b>
Tuesday	10/16/12	Investigations – Robbery
Thursday	10/18/12	Investigations – Burglary
Tuesday	10/23/12	Investigations – Theft including White Collar Crime
Thursday	10/25/12	Investigations – Vehicle Theft
Tuesday	10/30/12	Review material for Presentation Project - <b>Test #5:</b>

Thursday	11/01/12	Computer Crimes
Tuesday	11/06/12	Ag Crimes
Thursday	11/08/12	Review material for Presentation Project - <b>Test #6:</b>
Tuesday	11/13/12	Arson, Explosive Crimes & Drug Crimes Investigations
Thursday	11/15/12	Terrorism Investigations
Tuesday	11/20/12	Review material for Presentation Project - <b>Test #7:</b>
Thursday	11/22/12	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Tuesday	11/27/12	Class Presentations
Thursday	11/29/12	Class Presentations
Tuesday	12/04/12	Class Presentations
Thursday	12/06/12	Chapter 21 & <b>Final Exam.</b>