

# Imperial Valley College

## Administration of Justice

### Course Syllabus

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

**COURSE TITLE**  
Criminal Investigations

**INSTRUCTOR**  
Jeff Mason – Room 403  
Contact Information  
[jeff.mason@imperial.edu](mailto:jeff.mason@imperial.edu)  
760-337-4519

**TEXTBOOK**  
Criminal Investigation 11<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Swanson, Chamelin, Territo and Taylor  
McGraw Hill– Publishers, Inc.

**TERM**  
Spring 2013

**UNITS**  
3

**CLASS TIMES**  
Wednesday 6:30pm – 9:40pm

#### **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>350 points</b>
Tests:	15 points each	<b>75 points</b>
Chapter Questions:	15 points each	<b>75 points</b>
Group Project and Presentation:	5 minute presentation	<b>50 points</b>
Crime Scene Investigation		<b>50 Points</b>
Final Exam		<b>100 Points</b>

**A = 350-300    B = 299-250    C = 249-200    D = 199-150    F = 149-0**

**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 a test will result in a zero for that test unless prior approval is given by the instructor. Tests will be twenty (20) 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 test. Bring a No. 2 Pencil on test days, except for the final I will provide the Scantron.

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 your Spring Class Schedule 2013 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 won 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. Current event 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**  
(Wednesday 6:30 to 9:40 pm)

**Class Schedule:**

Week 1	01/16/13	Course Introduction/Expectations/Blackboard	
		HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: Chapter 1&2 Questions (due 1/23 )	
Week 2	01/23/13	Chapters 3 & 4	
Week 3	01/30/13	Chapters 5 & 6	
Week 4	02/06/13	Chapters 7 & 8	<b>Test # 1, Chapters 3-6</b>
Week 5	02/13/13	Chapter 9	
Week 6	02/20/13	Chapter 10	<b>Test # 2, Chapters 7-9</b>
		HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: Chapter 11 Questions (due 2/27)	
Week 7	02/27/13	Chapter 12	(Group Presentation Assignments)
Week 8	03/06/13	Chapter 13	
Week 9	03/13/13	Chapters 14 & 15	<b>Test # 3, Chapters 10, 12-13</b>
Week 10	03/20/13	Crime Scene Investigation (Practical)	
Week 11	03/27/13	Chapter 16	<b>Test # 4, Chapters 14-16</b>
Week 12	04/03/13	<b>No Class – Spring Break</b>	
Week 13	04/10/13	Group Presentations Part I	Chapter 17 Questions (in class)
Week 14	04/17/13	Group Presentations Part II	Chapter 18 Questions (in class)
Week 15	04/24/13	Chapters 20 & 21	Chapter 19 Questions (in class)
Week 16	05/01/13	Review for Final	<b>Test # 5, Chapters 20-21</b>
Week 17	05/08/13	Final Examination	

