

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2015	Instructor Name:	Jeff Mason
Course Title & #:	Criminal Investigation AJ 222	Email:	jeff.mason@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10700	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	3200-3212	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	08/17/15-12/11/15	Office Hours:	N/A
Class Days:	T-R	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	0800-0925	Emergency Contact:	Rhonda Ruiz 760-355-6280
Units:	3		

Course Description

Fundamentals of investigation; techniques of crime scene recording and search; collection and preservation of physical evidence; modus operandi processes; sources of information; interview and interrogation; follow up and case preparation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Describe the basic aspects of a criminal investigation. (ILO4, ILO5)
2. Identify the legal requirements necessary for a successful prosecution as a result of a completed criminal investigation. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Identify sources of information and methods for obtaining information from these sources. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the evolution of criminal investigation and criminalistics.
2. Demonstrate knowledge, and evaluate applicability of new current technological advances to the field of criminal investigations.
3. Assess crime scene, and demonstrate appropriate crime scene procedure.
4. Through case studies and role play, practice taking field notes, and drawing rough and smooth crime scene sketches to the satisfaction of the instructor. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of accurate field notes.
5. Correctly assess and apply the proper method of evidence examination, collection, and marking. The student

will demonstrate an understanding of evidential potential of crime scene material.

6. Define and describe effective uses and application of forensic science and criminalistics to criminal investigation. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the scientific community and the criminal justice system.

7. Through oral and written exercises, be able to distinguish and apply correct interview and interrogation procedures.

8. Identify sources of information.

9. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the basic rules of evidence.

10. Summarize the basic investigative procedures common to major crimes.

11. Identify and apply different investigative techniques appropriate to the given crime.

12. Satisfactorily demonstrate knowledge of or prepare a case investigation.

13. Demonstrate knowledge of the uses of the behavioral sciences in criminal investigations (psychological profiling, NCAVC, etc.).

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Criminal Investigation Basic Perspectives 13th edition by Charles A. Lushbaugh and Paul B. Weston

ISBN: 13:978-0-13-351440-7

Students must have the textbook.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

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. If you are late to class, you will not be given extra time to take the test. Bring a No. 2 Pencil and Scantron on test days. You must communicate to your instructor any problems that you are having with the course.

Students are expected to read the textbook chapters prior to the dates shown so they can participate in a meaningful discussion and be better prepared for quizzes.

All homework assignments are due at the start of the class following the date posted (i.e. Homework Assignment 1 is posted on 08/27 and due on 09/01). Late assignments are not accepted, unless extenuating circumstances are present and the instructor is notified in a timely manner (instructor's discretion).

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Assignments / Scores:

4 chapter tests @ 40 points each 160 points

1 crime scene investigation @ 100 points 100 points

6 homework assignments @ 15 points each 90 points all homework must be typed, 12 font minimum

1 final examination @ 50 points 50 points
400 points total

Letter Grades:

400 – 360	(100%-90%)	A
359 – 320	(89%-80%)	B
319 – 280	(79%-70%)	C
279 – 240	(69%-60%)	D
239 – 0	(59%-0%)	F

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **[Blackboard Support Site](#)**. The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **[Learning Services](#)**. There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **[Library Services](#)**. There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

08/18	Course Introduction / Expectations / Blackboard	
08/20	Chapter 1	
08/25	Chapter 2	
08/27	Chapter 3	Homework Assignment 1
09/01	Chapter 4	
09/03	Chapter 5	
09/08	Test # 1 Chapters 1 - 5	
09/10	Chapter 6	Homework Assignment 2
09/15	Chapter 7	
09/17	Chapter 8	
09/22	Chapter 9	Homework Assignment 3
09/24	Test # 2 Chapters 6-9	

- 09/29 Crime Scene Investigation Squad A
- 10/01 Crime Scene Investigation Squad B
- 10/06 Chapter 10
- 10/08 Chapter 11
- 10/13 Crime Scene Investigation Squad C
- 10/15 Crime Scene Investigation Squad D
- 10/20 Chapter 12 Homework Assignment 4
- 10/22 Crime Scene Investigation Presentations Squads A – B *
- 10/27 Chapter 13
- 10/29 Test # 3 Chapters 10 -13
- 11/03 Chapter 14
- 11/05 Crime Scene Investigation Presentations Squads C – D *
- 11/10 Chapter 15 Homework Assignment 5
- 11/12 Chapter 16
- 11/17 Chapter 17
- 11/19 Chapter 18 Homework Assignment 6
- 11/24 **Holiday No Class**
- 11/26 **Holiday No Class**
- 12/01 Test # 4 Chapters 14-18
- 12/03 Make up tests 1 – 4 (made up tests are credited at 2/3rds total score)
- 12/08 Review for Final Examination
- 12/10 Final Examination

Tests 1-4 are open book / open note / open resource.

The final examination is not open book / open note / open resource.

*Crime Scene Investigation Presentations must be at least 15 minutes and not more than 30 minutes, and all group members must be present and participate.

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****