



AJ 222: Criminal Investigation

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2025	Instructor Name:	Joe Arambula
Course Title & #:	Criminal Investigation AJ 222	Email:	Joe.arambula@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20371	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	3212	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	February 10 through June 06	Office Hours:	In person Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 AM-10:15 AM/ Online-Tuesdays 4:30 PM-6:00 PM
Class Days:	Mondays and Wednesdays	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	8:00 AM- 9:25 AM	Emergency Contact:	Rhonda Ruiz (760) 355-6280
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality:	Lecture/Face to Face

Course Description

The course addresses the techniques, procedures, and ethical issues in the investigative process, crime scene searches, interviewing and interrogating, surveillance, source of information, utility of evidence, scientific analysis of evidence and the role of the investigator in the trial process. (C-ID: AJ 140) (CSU)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None

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. Identify the basic elements of a criminal investigation.
2. Identify the legal requirements necessary in a criminal investigation.
3. Identify sources of information and methods for obtaining information from these sources.

Course Objectives

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

1. Describe the Foundations and History of Criminal Investigation
2. Explain the crime scene: identification and collection of evidence
3. Explain the crime scene: field notes, documenting, and reporting
4. Explain the identification of criminal suspects: field and laboratory services
5. Describe legal issues in criminal investigation

6. Describe interviews and interrogations
7. Explain criminal intelligence and surveillance operations
8. Explain undercover operations and informant management
9. Describe details of death investigations
10. Describe the elements of Robbery
11. Describe the elements of Assault and related offenses
12. Describe details of missing and abducted persons
13. Explain crimes against children: child abuse, child fatalities, and exploitation
14. Explain details of theft related offenses
15. Describe Arson, Bombings, and Terrorism
16. Describe special investigations: drug trafficking and gangs
17. Describe special investigations: white-collar, corporate, and computer related crimes
18. Explain investigations of officer involved shootings
19. Explain the preparation for court

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Criminal Investigation (9th Ed.) Michael D. Lyman (2020) Pearson ISBN:9780135186213

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

1. Demonstration
2. Discussion
3. Group Activity
4. Lecture
5. Simulation/Case Study
6. Audio Visual
7. Computer Assisted Instruction
8. Assessments

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Procedure: **Total Points 500**

Quizzes: 4 @ 25 total points each

Written assignments: 2 @ 50 total points each

Mid-Term: 150 points

Final exam: 150 points

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=0-59%

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to

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do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance 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.

Other Course Information

Class schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

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Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 February 10/12	Syllabus & Introduction Chapter 1	Lecture/Discussion
Week 2 February 19	February 17 is a Holiday Chapter 2	Lecture/Discussion
Week 3 February 24/26	Chapter 3	Lecture/Discussion/ Quiz #1
Week 4 March 3/5	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	Lecture/Discussion
Week 5 March 10/12	Chapter 6 Chapter 7	Lecture/Discussion/ Quiz# 2
Week 6 March 17/19	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	Written Assignment #1 Due Lecture/Discussion
Week 7 March 24/26	Chapter 10 Review	Lecture/Discussion
Week 8 March 31 April 2	Mid-Term Chapter 11	Mid-Term Exam Lecture/Discussion
Week 9 April 7/9	Chapter 12	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 3
Week 10 April 14/16	Chapter 13	Lecture/Discussion
April 21/23	Spring Recess (Campus closed)	Recess
Week 11 April 28/30	Chapter 14	Lecture/Discussion Written Assignment # 2 due
Week 12 May 5/7	Chapter 15	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 4
Week 13 May 12/14	Chapter 16 Chapter 17	Lecture/Discussion
Week 14 May 19/21	Chapter 18 Chapter 19	Lecture/Discussion
May 19/21	Chapter 19	Lecture/Discussion
Week 15 May 28	May 26 is a Holiday Review	Lecture/Discussion
Week 16 June 2/4	Final	Final Exam

Subject to change without prior notice