

2023-2024

NWKTC Catalog and Student Handbook

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

Description: The Crime Scene Investigation Technology program will develop students' competencies in the areas of locating, preserving, developing, collecting, analyzing and presenting physical evidence.

Degree/Certificates awarded:

AAS

Tech Cert B

Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the program, the student will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate the role of forensic science and the services provided by forensic laboratories
2. Identify and define probable cause in the context of search warrants and arrest warrants
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the potential health and safety hazards one could encounter at a crime scene
4. Demonstrate knowledge of corruption within the criminal justice system and its causes
5. Recite and discuss the bill of rights
6. Demonstrate proper photographic techniques when documenting specific offenses and situations
7. Develop an analytical framework for understanding any specific drug-use issue
8. Describe the usefulness of trace elements for the forensic comparison of various types of physical evidence
9. Students will be able to properly handle and mark as evidence biological material
10. Differentiate between various types of computer crime and determine if a crime has been committed, according to the facts of the case
11. Students will be able to discuss and explain some of the causes of terrorism
12. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of health and safety management and reporting of homicide investigations
13. Students will be able to demonstrate the techniques used to reconstruct the physical actions that occurred at a crime scene
14. Display knowledge of the role of the crime scene investigator and demonstrate the proper demeanor in the courtroom

Program Schedule:

Students attend class from 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PROGRAM GUIDE

YEAR I: FIRST SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
CSI 110	Introduction to Forensic Science	3
CSI 115	Rules of Evidence	3
CSI 124	Technical Crime Scene Documentation	3
CSI 126	Professional Responsibility in Criminal Justice	3
ENGL 110 or 112	English Composition I (Required)	3
SO 100	Student Success Seminar (Required)	1

YEAR I: SECOND SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
BA 215	Personal Finance	3
CSI 130	Criminal Law	3
CSI 135	Crime Scene Photography I	4
CSI 140	Criminalistics: Physical Evidence	4
CSI 145	Drug Identification & Effects	3
MATH 115 or 117	College (Required)	3

YEAR II: FIRST SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
CSI 215	Criminalistics: Biological Evidence	4
CSI 220	Introduction to Cyber Investigation	4
CSI 225	Interview & Interrogation	3
MA 130	First Aid & CPR	1
PSY 176	Psychology (Required)	3

YEAR II: SECOND SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
CSI 250	Terrorism & US Security	3
CSI 255	Forensic Pathology: Death Investigation	3
CSI 260	Crime Scene Reconstruction	4
CSI 265	Court Room Presentation	3
ENGL 115	English Comp II	3

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CSI 110 INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC SCIENCE

3 CR

This course provides an introduction to various topics in forensic science as related to crime scene investigation. These topics include crime scene investigation; the collection, handling, and analysis of evidence; fingerprints; blood and blood spatter examination; forensic analysis of DNA, insects, drugs, glass, handwriting, tool-marks and impressions, firearms and ballistics; forensic anthropology; and the determination of the manner, mechanism, and cause of death.

CSI 115 RULES OF EVIDENCE

3 CR

This course covers the procedures, techniques, and applications of private and public investigation. The course will integrate coverage of modern investigative tools alongside discussion of established investigation procedures and techniques

CSI 124 TECHNICAL CRIME SCENE DOCUMENTATION

3 CR

This course focuses on the unique types of writing required in a criminal justice career. Students are required to gather pertinent information and then record that information by writing a variety of report narratives representative of those prepared by individuals working in a profession within the criminal justice system.

CSI 126 PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

3 CR

Explores the major components involved in the study of ethics, particularly as it applies to the field of criminal justice. Focus is placed on the code of conduct and ethics of the criminal justice profession and the standards held to in their professional role. The aim of the course is to produce professionals who are not only critical thinkers, but who have the skills necessary to pursue sound ethics in their day-to-day decisions and activities.

CSI 130 CRIMINAL LAW

3 CR

This course provides a historical background and foundations of American Criminal Law, including United States Constitutional requirements, Federal and State Court Organization and jurisdiction, criminal law basics, Kansas Statutes, rules of evidence and procedure. The foundational principles are essential to providing base knowledge to crime scene investigators.

CSI 135 CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHY I

4 CR

Students will learn camera operations, exposure control, relational photographs and flash control for crime scene and evidentiary documentation.

CSI 140 CRIMINALISTICS: PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

4 CR

This course provides an introduction to various topics in forensic science as related to crime scene investigation. These topics include crime scene investigation; the collection, handling, and analysis of evidence; fingerprints; blood and blood spatter examination; forensic analysis of DNA, insects, drugs, glass, handwriting, tool-marks and impressions, firearms and ballistics; forensic anthropology; and the determination of the manner, mechanism, and cause of death.

CSI 145 DRUG IDENTIFICATION & EFFECTS

3 CR

A study of the fundamentals needed for identifying both the appearance and effects of controlled substances. Students receive guides to controlled substances: their color, trade names, and drug codes. Topics include a critical examination of the physiological, sociological, psychological, and legal aspects of drug abuse and many complexities that have developed as a direct or indirect result of their abuse in society.

CSI 215 CRIMINALISTICS: BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

4 CR

This course covers the identification and collection of biological evidence with emphasis on collection and preservation of evidence. Topics discussed include blood, blood alcohol, hairs and fibers, entomology and topics of

special interest in criminalistics. Utilizing the lab, students will gain hands-on learning techniques to master the practical application of their theoretical knowledge of forensic biology.

CSI 220 INTRODUCTION TO CYBER INVESTIGATION

4 CR

Presented from a criminal justice perspective, this course introduces students to the interdisciplinary field of cybercrime by exploring the theoretical, practical, and legal framework it operates under, along with strategies to combat it. The course provides a straightforward overview of cybercrime, cyber threats, and the vulnerabilities individuals, businesses, and governments face every day in a digital environment. Highlighting the latest empirical research findings and challenges that cybercrime and cybersecurity pose for those working in the field of criminal justice, this course exposes critical issues related to privacy, terrorism, hactivism, the dark web, and much more.

CSI 225 INTERVIEW & INTERROGATION

3 CR

This course will help the student distinguish between interviews and interrogations. Understand the role of Miranda V. Arizona and how to design and set up their own interrogation room. The course will also help the student learn strategies to elicit a truthful confession.

CSI 250 TERRORISM & US SECURITY

3 CR

This course teaches the foundations of national security as it relates to world terrorism, the United States engagement in the war against international terrorism, and the application of preemption known as the Bush Doctrine. The course is a survey of the history and cultural development of Islam and the extreme manifestation of political militancy known as Jihad. The cultural and political history will enhance student understanding of the factors leading up to the events of September 11, 2001 and how those events changed American security.

CSI 255 FORENSIC PATHOLOGY: DEATH INVESTIGATION

3 CR

This course is an examination of the medical investigation of sudden, unnatural, unexplained or violent deaths. The course also explains the legal and medical roles of death investigators and medical examiner. Additional topics include the autopsy, documenting and evaluating the body, routine and special investigative techniques, and death event reconstruction.

CSI 260 CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION

4 CR

This course examines techniques used to reconstruct the physical actions that occurred at a crime or accident scene. Involved the use of physical, testimonial, and documentary evidence, knowledge of criminal modus operandi, and the scientific method, including deductive and inductive logic.

Pre-requisites: CSI 115 – Rules of Evidence, CSI 135 – Crime Scene Photography I, CSI 140 – Criminalistics: Physical Evidence, CSI 145 – Drug Identification and Effects, CSI 215 – Criminalistics: Biological Evidence, CSI 220 – Introduction to Cyber Investigation, CSI 255 – Forensic Pathology: Death Investigation

CSI 265 COURTROOM PRESENTATION

3 CR

The effectiveness of quality notes, reports and accurate documentation in the investigative process are explained and performed. Preparation of a report, chain of custody documents and other forms with proper content, mechanics, elements and format will also be explained and performed. Topics include field or bench notes, documentation of observations, factual report writing, property and evidence reports, business letters, memorandums, proper grammar, proper sentence structure and characteristics essential to quality report writing and document preparation.