

Criminal Investigation  
CJ 1340 – Fall 2012 Semester  
Location: 101  
Day: Tuesday - Time: 5:15 – 7:45p.m.  
Professor: Robert L. Flowers, BS – University of Utah, MA – Naval Postgraduate School  
Office Hours: ½ hour before and after class or by special arrangements.  
Phone: (435)669-3106 after 5:00 PM  
E-mail: flowers@dixie.edu

## SYLLABUS

### TEXTBOOK:

Criminal Investigation 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Christine Hess Orthmann/Karen Matison Hess.

Or Criminal Investigation 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Swanson, Chamelin, etc.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVE

The Criminal Investigation Course is intended for students interested in a career in law enforcement, adult or juvenile corrections, law, private or industrial security, counseling or criminology, and all other fields within the criminal justice system of the United States. This course covers duties and problems of investigating officers, use of records, report writing, investigative techniques. Special emphasis is on the application of skills in the investigation of criminal offenses. The class will consist of lectures, videos, guest lectures, practical exercises, term paper, and assigned text study. This course prepares students for the Criminal Justice Associate and Bachelor Degrees.

### NOTES:

1) This class involves the study of criminal activities. The subject matter and materials presented will be graphic on occasion and disturbing to some. Images and descriptions contained in the text and presentations are sometimes graphic and disturbing to some. Please review the materials at the beginning of the semester to determine if this is the right class for you. If at any time you are disturbed by a topic or course content, please feel free to bring it to my attention. I will do what I can to alleviate the problem.

### EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to do the following:

- 1- Attend all classes. I do understand the demands of life. Missing one night class is equal to three one hour classes. You will be reduced 5 points for each class missed. I will also give 10% for making each and every class.
- 2- Arrive on time, remain for the entire class and be attentive. If you are planning to leave early, please sit in a location that would cause the least disruption! Please.

- 3- Be prepared – read the assigned material, participate in class discussions, and submit assignments on time. Class is more enriching when you have read the material.
- 4- Bring textbooks and other course materials to class.
- 5- Respect in language and conduct is required at all times.
- 6- Refrain from receiving cell phone or similar electronic interruptions during class. Use of computers is encouraged for note taking and “investigating” the topic of discussion!
- 7- No recording of lectures allowed.

## GRADING

The following will comprise a final grade:

...Exam #1 = 100 points

.. Exam #2 = 100 points

.. Term Paper = 100 points

.. Participation = 100 points (attendance, class discussions, practical exercises). Missing classes will result in a 5 point deduction for each absence. I place a high premium on attendance and participation.

.. Final Exam = 100 points

.. Total = 500 points

Extra Credit not allowed – but can receive 10% for making all classes.

You papers and exams are not only graded on content but writing skill, you must be able to communicate your point with proper grammar, spelling, etc.

## Grade Scale

500-475 = A;

474-450=A-;

449-425 =B+;

424-400=B;

399-375=B-;

374-350=C+;

349-325 =C;

324-300=C-;

299-275=D+;

274-255=D;

254-225=D-;

224-0=F.

## EXAMS 1 & 2

Exam 1 will be given in class on to be announced later and will cover materials covered up to that date. Exam 2 will be given in class and will cover materials from up to the exam date. The date will be announced later. Each exam may consist of multiple choices, true/false and short answer type questions.

## FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be held 12 December at 5 PM. The exam may be comprehensive covering the entire semester. Exam questions will be taken from lectures, your textbook, videos, class discussions, and all other class materials. The exam may be comprised of multiple choices, true/false and short answer questions.

## SCOPE OF EXAMINATIONS

The student will be responsible for all materials assigned in the textbook through the date of the examination, lectures, guest's presentations, distributed materials, videos, and class discussions. If you fail to attend a class session, please contact a fellow student or the professor to ascertain what material may have been missed.

## MAKE – UP EXAMINATIONS

A student may be allowed to make-up a missed examination, however, only under the most extreme of circumstances. The student MUST contact the professor PRIOR to the examination to discuss the reason for missing the examination and to make arrangements to make-up the missed examination. The decision as to whether a make-up examination will be allowed is at the sole discretion of the professor.

## TERM PAPER

Each student must complete a term paper. The paper must be no less than 5 pages and no more than eight of content (Bibliography not included). The format will be double-spaced, 12 point "Times New

Roman" font, and all margins at 1 inch. Footnotes are required with proper academic formatting and acknowledgements.

The subject of the paper will be within the area of Criminal Investigations. The subject is of the students choosing but will be on a topic covered in the text book. The topic MUST have prior approval from the professor. Topics for term papers are due the same night as the midterm exam or as discussed in class.

A minimum of 3 references must be used. Sources must be of an academic nature (not websites with general information) from books, case law, statutory law, or periodicals. Papers will be graded on content and the clear and effective communication of information and ideas. Grammar and spelling are not the primary focus, however, it will count to the degree it affects the clear communication noted above. Please avail yourself to the DSC Writing Center if you have concerns in this regard. The writing center has many resources to assist you.

The term paper is due at the beginning of class to be announced later (last night of class). Papers not turned in by the beginning of the last class will not be accepted. Each semester a student tries, but sadly is not successful; do not think you will be the first!

Therefore, if you are late, are ill, have car trouble, or have computer problems, if your dog eats your paper – do yourself a favor and turn your paper in early. I will accept them anytime during the semester.

## SCHEDULE

Class Date Reading (to be completed prior to class)

August 21 First Class

August 28 Week 2 – Investigative Process

We will be discussing the investigative process from the original reporting to courtroom preparation. Specifically:

- a. What is an investigation
- b. How does it begin
- c. What is the process inside an organization
- d. The investigator qualification and needs
- e. Legal aspects

Text: Swanson - Chapters 1,2,3

Orthmann - Chapters 1, 4

September 4 - Week 3

Class discussion will "investigate" the evidence process.

Be prepared to discuss the crime scene processes in gather evidence.

- a. Direct/Indirect Evidence
- b. Discovering evidence
- c. Protecting evidence
- d. Types of evidence: Blood, DNA,

September 11 – Week 4

Topics for Paper are due to be approved and discussed with me.

Class discussion will focus on Interviewing and Interrogation. We will examine on the many challenges involved in interviewing and interrogation. We will discuss the requirements specific to both as they pertain to victims, suspects and witnesses.

September 18 TBA

Reading assignments will be provided on September 18th for the rest of September and October.

#### NOTE

Guest lecturers will be visiting during the semester. Video and other presentations will also be made. Therefore, class discussions will not necessarily cover all materials in the textbook, however, you are responsible for all assigned materials in the textbook whether covered in class or not. Regardless of guest speakers or multi-media presentations, you are required to have completed all the readings according to the schedule and be prepared to discuss the materials required through that date in class. You will note that the reading schedule is intense at times; I suggest you read ahead during breaks. Quizzes may be given at any time on the readings and other materials up through the date of the quiz.

#### CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend classes, be prepared, and participate in class discussions. Student participation grades will be based not only on attendance and quantity of participation but on quality of participation. Quizzes may be given at any time and will be included within the participation grade. Practical (real world scenarios presented for you to investigate and solve) will also count towards class participation grades.

#### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Cheating on examinations will not be tolerated. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying another student's answers, consulting "crib sheets", consulting with another student or any other act or attempted act seeking to gain an unfair advantage. All work submitted must be the student's own work. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Any academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course and the student will be referred to the college for disciplinary proceedings.

#### RECORDING DEVICES

Are simply not allowed without permission of the Professor! Don't even try it!

## DISABILITIES

If you are a student with a medical, psychological, or learning disability and would like accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center at 652-7516 in the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine eligibility of a student requesting special services and determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability.

## MISC. Information

\*\* The Professor specifically reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time\*\* You will be given timely notification of any changes.

## **Student Support Services**

1.2 Library <http://library.dixie.edu>

1.3 Testing Center <http://new.dixie.edu/testing>

1.4 Writing Center and OWL [http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php)

1.5 Tutoring Center <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring>

## **Semester Calendar and General Class Plan**

Dates of assignments, tests and other class and college deadlines. These dates can be found at <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/?page=calendar>.