

COURSE SYLLABUS (AJ112)
ADVANCED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
FALL SEMESTER, 2000

INSTRUCTOR

Lieutenant Eric Sills (408) 277-4102
Sexual Assault Investigations Unit, San Jose Police Department

REQUIRED TEXT

Wayne W. Bennett and Karen M. Hess, Criminal Investigation, Minneapolis, MI., West Publishing Company, Fifth Edition.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will provide an overview of the necessary steps involved to successfully conduct investigations for crimes against persons and crimes against property. The students will learn the step by step process beginning with the preliminary investigation, the collection and processing of evidence, and the identification, interviewing and arresting of suspects. The students will then learn how to apply these principals to the specific crimes of homicide, sexual assault, child exploitation and aggravated assault.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The class will meet Fridays from 1200 hrs. until 1445 hrs. (except for scheduled holidays). The lecture and reading assignments are tentative pending class discussion, guest speakers and the overall pace of the class.

GRADING

Students will be graded according to the following criteria:

1. One midterm exam, Friday, October 27 @ 1200 hours which will account for 30% of the course grade.
2. One final exam, Wednesday, December 20 @ 0945 hours which will account for 30% of the course grade.
3. One oral class presentation which will account for 30% of the course grade.
 - ◆ The presentation should last for approximately 10-15 minutes. Anyone who exceeds 15 minutes will be cut short by the instructor whether the presentation is completed or not.
 - ◆ It may be on any related topic of criminal investigation, however it must first be approved by me.
 - ◆ Students must prepare an outline and bibliography for me which must be turned in the day of the presentation.
4. Class participation during discussions of lecture material and case exemplars which will account for 10% of the course grade.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

September 1
Course Introduction
Criminal Investigation Overview
(Chapter 1)

September 8
The Preliminary Investigation
Crime Scene Investigation
Investigative Photography
(Chapters 1-2)

September 15
Crime Scene Sketch
Searches in General
Crime Scene Searches
(Chapters 2-4)

September 22
Oral Presentation Skills
Notes and Reports
Report Writing Exercise
(Chapter 3)

September 29
Physical Evidence
(Chapter 5)

October 6
Guest Speaker
Sgt. Bruce Wiley
SJPD Homicide Crime Scene Unit

October 13
Interview and Interrogation

(Chapter 6 and Chapter 11, Pages 370-374)

October 20
Identifying and Arresting suspects
(Chapter 7)
Guest Speaker
Officer Gil Zamora
SJPD Police Artist

October 27
MIDTERM EXAM

November 3
Homicide
(Chapter 12)

November 10
Homicide
(Chapter 12)

November 17
Tour of Santa Clara
County Coroner's
Office / Autopsy

November 24
THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

December 1
Sexual Assault
The Typology of Rapists
Class Group Exercise

December 8
Sexual Assault
Child Molest and Exploitation((C
(Chapters 10 and 11)
LAST DAY OF CLASS

December 20 (Wednesday)
FINAL EXAMINATION
(0945 – 1200 hours)