

San José State University
CASA/Department of Justice Studies
FS 161, Crime Scene Investigation, Fall 2013

Instructor	Mary Juno
Office Location	MacQuarrie Hall 529
Instructor Email	mary.juno@sjsu.edu
Course Website	Some course documents will be posted on Canvas https://sjsu.instructure.com/
Office Hours	Thursdays 1330-1500 Please sign up for an appointment on the clipboard outside my office
Class Days/Times	Thursday 1500-1650 Friday 0900-1150
Classroom	Thursday: 347 Sweeney Hall Friday: TBA
Prerequisites	FS 11 or JS 10 Upper division standing

Course Catalogue Description

Fundamental theories of physical evidence practically applied and the legal considerations involved in its recognition, collection, preservation and presentation in court. Topics include securing and recording the crime scene, collecting evidence, maintaining the chain of custody and scene reconstruction.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

LO1 Document crime scenes using reports, photography, and diagrams, and demonstrate this knowledge in practical exercises.

LO2 Demonstrate practical knowledge in processing specific types of evidence including fingerprints, blood spatter, firearms, glass, impression, and trace evidence.

LO3 Demonstrate understanding of crime scene hazards and corresponding safety measures, search warrants and the 4th Amendment, chain of custody, court testimony, the Locard Exchange Principle, and other critical terms and concepts.

LO4 Recognize, collect, handle, package and preserve physical evidence using safe and appropriate methods, and demonstrate and articulate this knowledge.

LO5 Analyze and critically evaluate the CSI Effect.

Texts/Readings

- Ogle, R. (2011). *Crime Scene Investigation and Reconstruction*, 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall. ISBN: 978-0136093602

- Course Reader
- NIJ (2000). *Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for Law Enforcement*. Available as a pdf from <http://www.nij.gov/pubs-sum/178280.htm>

Journal articles, tutorials and links to other readings will be posted on the class website. It is the student's responsibility to check the website frequently for new postings.

Assignments

1. Crime Scene Exercises (40%): Practical lab exercises in searching, scene diagrams, photography, report writing, developing and lifting latent fingerprints, blood spatter interpretation, impression evidence and glass. (LO1)
2. Exams (30%): Two midterms, one final exam, and periodic quizzes. Format may include multiple choice, fill-in, short answer, short essay, and diagrams. (LO2)
3. Homework (20%): Answer review and discussion questions at the end of each assigned chapter; read assigned articles and substantively respond to written discussion questions; complete online exercises. Chapter review questions must be handwritten.
4. Portfolio (10%): Students will turn in an organized binder (portfolio) at the end of the semester containing their Crime Scene Exercises.

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and will be used to augment the final grade up to 3%.

1. Join a professional organization (CAC, AAFS, IAI, etc.) during the semester and supply proof of membership by the end of the term.
2. Tour a crime lab and write a 2-page, double-spaced synopsis of the experience.
Recommended: San Mateo County Sheriff's Crime Lab annual tour in late October.

Late Work and Make Ups

Late work will generally not be accepted, or may be given *half credit* in some instances. Time allotted to respond to discussion questions will not be extended. If you know ahead of time that you will be offline when an assignment is due, complete it early. Real life has deadlines and so does this class. Make-ups will generally not be given unless extraordinary, documented circumstances exist. Many exercises will be carried out in teams. These involve a lot of prep and set up and therefore cannot be made up (for any reason), so do not miss them.

If you are in any doubt about the requirements of an assignment, or due dates/times, please re-read the assignment and/or schedule. If your question is still unanswered, contact me for clarification. Generally, I don't answer questions that *I have already answered in writing* in the assignment guidelines, in a post, or on the schedule.

Students are responsible for reading and following the directions on every assignment. Assignments that do not adhere to the directions will not be accepted for credit, or may be handed back for revision and resubmission. Assignments resubmitted for this reason will be marked down 10% automatically.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance and class participation is expected. It is essential that you come to class prepared so please keep up with the reading, complete assignments on time, and participate in class discussions. Lack of adequate participation *will* result in pop quizzes, which *will* count toward your final grade.

Cell phone and laptop use is not permitted during class.

Grading Scale for All Assignments

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	94-96	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	64-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63
						F	<60

Note: A grade of C or better is required for all Justice Studies and Forensic Science courses.

Student Resources

Forensic Science Student Group (FSS)

Forensic Science Students is a campus group open to all students interested in forensic science. The group meets biweekly during the semester and offers friendship, forensic science-related activities, networking opportunities, and mentorship. Members of the FSS participate and assist at conferences, CSI camps, guest speaking events, and other extra-curricular activities. FSS Peer Mentors assist forensic science students in navigating the major, understanding requirements and prerequisites, and making wise choices in their college careers. Mentors may also offer limited tutoring, and facilitate educational and professional opportunities. Contact sjsu.fss@gmail.com for more information, or to get an application for membership.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center assists students in the development of their full academic potential and motivates them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skill assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center located in Room 126 in Clark Hall offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, including one-on-one tutoring sessions and numerous writing workshops. All services are free for SJSU students. <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>

CASA Student Success Center

The Student Success Center located in MacQuarrie Hall, Room 533 (top floor) provides GE advising for undergraduate students majoring or interested in majoring in programs offered by CASA Departments and Schools. The Student Success Center provides also assistance with changing majors, answers to academic policy related questions, meetings with peer advisors and/or various regularly scheduled presentations and workshops. <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/ssc/>

University Policies

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State University. Students are expected to perform their own work (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests, quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to the Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and demonstrate a lack of respect for oneself, one's fellow students and the course instructor. Violations also can ruin the university's reputation and devalue of the degrees it offers. We all share the obligation to maintain an environment that practices academic integrity.

The University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade in the course and will be subject to sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops is available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html>. Information on late drops is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Important Dates This Semester

Tues 9/3: Last Day to Drop Without a W

Tues 9/10: Last Day to Add a Course, Last Day to Request CR/NC

Thurs 11/14: Last Day to Submit Late Drop/Withdrawal Request

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

The Disability Resource Center provides resources for students with disabilities. Resources include: Academic Accommodation, Academic Advising, Adaptive Technology Center, Alternative Media Center, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program, Disabled Parking, Guidelines for Documentation of Disability, Educational Assistants, Learning Disabilities, and Priority Registration. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please see me during office hours. <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>

Administration Building 110

Phone: 408.924.6000 (Main Office) 408.924.6542 (Deaf and HoH) 408.808.2123 (ATC)

Hours: Mon - Thurs, 9:00am to 6:00pm; Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Justice Studies Reading and Writing Philosophy

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives—personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

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Instructor

Mary Juno earned her MSc in Forensic Science from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, and her BA in Biological Anthropology from San Francisco State University. Juno worked for many years as a CSI at the Oakland Police Department where she processed hundreds of major crime scenes and taught in the Oakland Police Academy. She has conducted research at the NYPD

Latent Fingerprint Lab, and currently also teaches at Cabrillo College (*Police Report Writing and Forensic Investigations*) and City College San Francisco (*Criminal Identification and Physical Evidence*). At SJSU, Juno teaches JS 10, JS 100W, FS 11, FS 161, FS 162, FS 163 & FS 164. Her office is 529 MacQuarrie Hall.

FS 161 Crime Scene Investigation Fall 2013 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change. (R) = Reader.

Week	Date	Topics and Deadlines	Readings and Assignments
1	8/22 8/23	Introduction and class overview CSI Reality vs Fantasy, CSI Effect	Register with dna.gov Read Ch 1 & 2, Review Questions CSI Assignment Read Introduction to CSI & Searches (R)
2	8/29 8/30	Value of Physical Evidence Steps of CSI, Observations & Search Methods Due: Review Questions (1 & 2)	Read Notes/Reports Section (R) Read Appendix I
3	9/5 9/6	Methods of Scene Documentation: Notes/Reports CSE: Scene Description Due: CSI Assignment	Read Ch 4, Review Questions Read Diagram Section (R)
4	9/12 9/13	Methods of Scene Documentation: Diagrams Due: Review Questions (4) CSE: Diagrams	Read Ch 3, Review Questions Read Photo Section and articles (R)
5	9/19 9/20	Methods of Scene Documentation: Photo & Video, CSE: Photo Due: Review Questions (3)	Read Evidence Section (R) Read Appendix IV
6	9/26 9/27	Packaging & Preservation of Evidence Exam #1	Study for Exam Read Ch 5, Review Questions Read FP section (R), Read Appendix III FBI Latent Print Guide
7	10/3 10/4	Fingerprints Due: Review Questions (5) CSE: Fingerprints	Read Ch 7, Review Questions Read Blood Section (R) Complete DNA.gov courses: Crime Scene & DNA Basics, What Every Investigator and Evidence Tech Should Know About DNA – print certs
8	10/10 10/11	Biological Evidence, DNA, Blood Spatter CSE: Blood Spatter Due: Review Questions (7), DNA.gov certs	Read Ch 6 & 9, Review Questions
9	10/17 10/18	Trace Evidence, Impression Evidence CSE: Footwear Impressions Due: Review Questions (6 & 9)	Read Ch 8, Review Questions
10	10/24 10/25	Firearms CSE: Glass Evidence Due: Review Questions (8)	Study for Exam
11	10/31 11/1	Exam #2	Read Ch 13, 14, 15, Review Questions Read Section on Types of Crime Scenes (R), Read Logic & Reason Section (R)

Week	Date	Topics and Deadlines	Readings and Assignments
12	11/7 11/8	Specific Types of Crime Scenes: Burglaries, Sexual Assaults, Deaths Due: Review Questions (13, 14, 15) Mock Crime Scene Prep	Prep for MCSE
13	11/14 11/15	Mock Crime Scene Thursday Teams 1-4 Friday Teams 5-8	Read Ethics Section (R), articles Read Appendix II Practice Exam
14	11/21 11/22	CS Reconstruction, Logic and Reason Occam's Razor Ethics & Court Testimony MCSE Due Friday	
15	11/28 11/29	No class meetings this week Happy Thanksgiving!	
16	12/5 12/6	Last week of class – exam review	Study for Final
Final Exam	TBA	Monday 12/16, 1445-1700 Wednesday 12/11, 0715-0930	Happy holidays!