

Purpose: It is the intention of this Administrative-Master Syllabus to provide a general description of the course, outline the required elements of the course and to lay the foundation for course assessment for the improvement of student learning, as specified by the faculty of Wharton County Junior College, regardless of who teaches the course, the timeframe by which it is instructed, or the instructional method by which the course is delivered. It is not intended to restrict the manner by which an individual faculty member teaches the course but to be an administrative tool to aid in the improvement of instruction.

Course Title – Criminal Investigations

Course Prefix and Number – CRIJ 2314

Department – Criminal Justice

Division – Social and Behavioral Science

Course Type: (check one)

- Academic General Education Course (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)
 Academic WCJC Core Course
 WECM course (This course is a Special Topics or Unique Needs Course: Y or N)

Semester Credit Hours #: Lecture hours#: Lab/other hours # 3:3:0

Equated Pay hours for course - 3

Course Catalog Description - Investigative theory, collection and preservation of evidence, sources of information, interview and interrogation, uses of forensic sciences, case and trial preparation. THEA reading and writing requirements met.

List Lab/ Other Hours
Lab Hours
Clinical Hours
Practicum Hours
Other (list)

Prerequisites/Co requisites - THEA reading and writing requirements met.

Approvals – the contents of this document have been reviewed and are found to be accurate.

Prepared by G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt gghunt</i>	Date 9-8-10
Department Head G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt gghunt</i>	Date 9-8-10
Division Chair G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt gghunt</i>	Date 9-8-10
Vice President of Instruction or Dean of Vocational Instruction	Signature <i>Jy Pat</i>	Date <u>9-24-10</u>



I. Topical Outline – Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction):

- A. Basic Investigative Responsibilities
- B. Documenting the Crime Scene
- C. Writing Effective Reports
- D. Searches
- E. Forensics/Physical Evidence
- F. Obtaining Information
- G. Identifying and Arresting Suspects
- H. Investigating Violent Crimes
- I. Investigating Crimes Against Property
- J. Other Challenges to Investigations (Computer Crime, Gangs, Terrorism, etc.)

II. Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcome	Method of Assessment
1. Define the goals and objectives of criminal investigation 2. Demonstrate ability to conduct proper crime scene investigations 3. Demonstrate the use of forensic science for various statutory offenses 4. organize the criminal case including field notes, reports, crime scene activities	1. Measured unit examination, and/or written assignments. 2. Measured by successful completion of practical application of case study and assigned scenarios 3. Measured by unit examination, and/or written assignments. 4. Measured by successful completion of practical application of case study and assigned scenarios

III. Required Text(s), Optional Text(s) and/or Materials to be supplied by Student.

- A. Dutelle, Aric W.; An Introduction to Crime Scene Investigation; Jones and Bartlett Publishers
- B. Internet access to social science databases, journals, and legal documents
- C. Access to a computer and printer for preparing and submitting assignments

Optional texts include the following:

- A. Investigating Homicide: Workbook, Sweetman and Sweetman; Thomson Publisher
- B. Criminal Investigation, Hess/Orthmann; Delmar Cengage Publisher

IV. Suggested Course Maximum - 35

V. List any specific spatial or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.

Instructor must have access to all appropriate technology for online sections of this course.

VI. Course Requirements/Grading System – Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course

Students in Criminal Justice courses must have a 70% average to receive a passing grade!

Grading System:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = 0-69

Minimum requirements include the following:

1. Attend class in accordance with college policy and as stipulated by the instructor.
2. Complete appropriate reading assignments made by the instructor
3. Complete appropriate writing assignments based on the readings, classroom presentations and discussion (if assigned by instructor)
4. Complete oral presentations (if assigned by instructor)
5. Complete appropriate tests (quizzes, major examinations, and a final examination
6. Completion of assigned case scenarios/applications

Assessment will be conducted using a variety of methods. Objective questions such as multiple-choice, matching, true/false and fill-in-the blank may be used as well as subjective questions which may demand lengthy narrative responses, and also critical thinking as applied to application-based and scenario-based assignments. Students will be tested on materials presented in class and are expected to develop listening and note-taking skills. The weight, style, and nature of the specific assessment tool is left to the discretion of the individual instructor, but each instructor must place emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills.

VII. Curriculum Checklist

- **Academic General Education Course** (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)
No additional documentation needed

- **Academic WCJC Core Course**
Attach the Core Curriculum Checklist, including the following:

- Basic Intellectual Competencies
- Perspectives
- Exemplary Educational Objectives

- **WECM Courses**
If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix & Competencies Checklist.