



Forensic Science Course Syllabus

90 minute Class

Course Name: Forensic Science Honors
Instructor: Paul M. Cruz
Phone No. 580 - 5300 ext. 1187

Room Number: Science Bldg. Room - 157
E-mail Address: Pcruz@sharylandisd.org

Conference: Fall Semester
Spring Semester

2nd Block (9:44 a.m. - 11:14 a.m.)
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Tutoring: Fall Semester:
after October 23
Spring Semester

Monday & Wednesday (4:15 - 4:45 p.m.)
Monday & Wednesday (7:30 - 8:00 a.m.)
Monday & Wednesday (7:30 - 8:00 a.m.)

Course Description:

Forensic Science is a course that introduces students to the application of science to connect a violation of law to a specific criminal, criminal act, or behavior and victim. Students will learn terminology and procedures related to the search and examination of physical evidence in criminal cases as they are performed in a typical crime laboratory. Using scientific methods, students will collect and analyze evidence such as fingerprints, bodily fluids, hairs, fibers, paint, glass, and cartridge cases. Students will also learn the history and the legal aspects as they relate to each discipline of forensic science. Students must meet the 40% laboratory and fieldwork requirement. This course satisfies a high school science graduation requirement.

Student's Expectations:

1. It is expected that you will strive to do your very best in all activities in this class.
2. You must complete all assignments and turn them on time.
3. Students must attend class regularly because "when you miss school, you miss out!"
4. Students must follow the classroom rules as those established by school policy.
5. Students must follow the school's policy for make-up work when you have been absent.
6. Personal electronic devices **are not** to be displayed or used during class time without teacher's permission. School policy permits confiscation and fee penalties.
7. Be accountable for your own work. Cheating is not tolerated. Consequences will follow.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be on Time
2. Be in your assigned seat "before" the bell rings.
3. Raise your hand to be recognized.
4. Please No "Horse Playing Around".
5. Listen and be on task.
6. Respect each other and your teacher.

Tentative Course Outline: 90 Minute Class

Semester I	Topics that will be covered	Semester II	Topics that will be covered
Week 1	Intro to Forensic Science / History	Week 10	DNA / Blood Spatter
Week 2	Types of Evidence / Crime Scene	Week 11	DNA / Blood Spatter
Week 3	Crime Scene	Week 12	Document Analysis
Week 4	Entomology	Week 13	Drugs
Week 5	Anthropology	Week 14	Drugs
Week 6	Fingerprints	Week 15	Toxicology
Week 7	Hair	Week 16	Ballistics
Week 8	Fiber	Week 17	Final Project
Week 9	Midterm exam	Week 18	Final Exam

Materials Needed:

All of the materials listed below should be brought to class everyday. Exception will be your textbook. All assignments will be completed in blue, black ink or pencil. When doing mathematical assignments and certain reports you may use only **pencil** or **map colors** depending on the assignment. The class will be given a cabinet storage area to store your binders in. This will help alleviate some of the weight from your backpack.

1. Textbook Name of Book: Forensic Science: An Introduction - 4th Edition Richard Saferstein)
2. Binder 3 ring large size (2.5 or 3 inch size).
3. Paper Wide or College rule
4. Dividers Set of Eight
5. Ink Pens - Blue or Black for assignments (You may also use pencil)
6. Pencils- number 2
7. Zipper Bag - To hold your supplies within your binder (pens, pencils, etc.)
8. Liquid paper - Pen type or correction tape only - no bottles.

Materials Required:

- 1 Box of 30 - 50 count Nitrile or Rubber Gloves
- 1 container of Clorox Wipes

Grading Policy:

Major Tests will make up **60%** of your 9 weeks grade. Below is a list of assignments that will be counted as major grades.

- A. Exams
- B. Reports
- C. Projects
- D. Presentations
- E. Essays

Daily Average work will make up **40%** of your 9 week grades. Below is a list of the type of grade which will count as D.A.

- A. Class Work
- B. Daily Tests (Quizzes)
- C. Homework
- D. Court Cases Reviews
- E. Binder Grade

NOTEBOOK OUTLINE

Each student will be required to turn in a binder at the end of each **six** week grading period. It will be due on the Friday before each six week period unless otherwise directed by the teacher. It will be counted for a grade! Neatness and completeness are the key factors in putting together a good binder. Any unnecessary markings or scribbling will result in the loss of points from your grade. Any papers that are out of proper order or that are not secured by the binder rings will be assumed as missing.

The following is the proper order of a science notebook. Do not write anything regarding each of the divisions until exact directions are given.

1. Outside Cover Sheet

- A. Your Name
- B. Subject
- C. Teacher's Name
- D. Room Number
- E. Block Number

2. Cover Sheet

- A. Your Name
- B. Subject
- C. Teacher's Name
- D. Room Number
- E. Block Number

3. Table Of Contents

- A. Class Notes
- B. Figure Focus
- C. Lab Investigations
- D. Class Work
- E. Daily Tests
- F. Major Exam
- G. Case Files

4. Course Syllabus

5. DIVIDER #1 - Class Notes

6. DIVIDER #2 - Figure Focus

7. DIVIDER #3 - Lab Investigations

8. DIVIDER #4 - Classwork

9. DIVIDER #5 - Daily Tests

10. DIVIDER #6 - Major Exams

11. DIVIDER #7 - Case Files

12. DIVIDER #8 - Miscellaneous



Sherlock Holmes



Student File Information Sheet

This must be returned to the teacher.



Student Name: _____ Block: _____

Student ID #: _____

Student and Parent Contract Forensic Science Class

Forensic Science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. The subject matter and content of this course will deal with legal and criminal issues. Sensitive matters may be addressed. Graphic pictures, guest speakers, portion of a Rated R movie scene may be shown to explain certain aspects of a criminal case. A field trip(s) may be possible if we have special permission to visit a particular venue within the semester.

By signing this, you and your parent(s) or guardian are aware of the nature of the course and the possibility of discussion of certain topics. If at any time you or your parent(s) or guardian should feel uncomfortable discussing or participating in an activity, please feel free to let me know.

Your signature below indicates that you and your parent(s) or guardian have read and understand the course syllabus for this course.

Student's Signature: _____ Grade Level: _____

Student E-mail Address: _____

Parent's Printed Name: _____ Parent's Phone #: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's E-mail address: _____

Questions for the Teacher about the class:

Schedule Information

Please write your schedule for this fall semester below, in case that I need to locate you before or after the class. Place your teacher's name and/or room number on the space that is provided.

Period	Subject	Room #	Teacher's Name
1st Block			
2nd Block			
3rd Block			
Do you have A or B lunch? Circle one: A B			
4th Period			
5th Block			



