

Forensic Science

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Course Syllabus

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_



## Forensic Science Course Syllabus 90 minute Class (Fall)

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

**Room Number:**  
Science Bldg. Room - 157

**Conference:** Fall Semester

2nd Block (9:37 - 11:07 a.m.)

**Tutoring:** Fall Semester:

Tues./Thurs. (4:05 - 4:35 p.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 (Fall)

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

### 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

# BINDER 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**



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## Perseverance

**The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of knowledge, not a lack of strength, but rather is a lack of will!**

I have read the above information, and I'm aware of the expectations and classroom rules set forth in Mr. Cruz's Forensic Science class.

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*Student's Signature*

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*Parent's Signature*

**Please return the whole handout after your parent signs it.**



# 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:**

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## 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, B or C lunch? Circle one:    A        B        C			
4th Period			
5th Block			

