

**Course Syllabus: Topics in Biology (Forensic Pathology), Biology 4395,
(CRN# 17928)
Fall 2015**

Instructor: Dr. Roshanak Jafari

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Prerequisite courses: Biology 1305 & Biology 1107

Classroom: UGLC 336

Class Hours: MW 9:00 – 10:20 AM; **Office Hours:** TR 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Required Materials:

Knight's Forensic Pathology, 3Ed, 3 by Pekka Saukko ISBN-10: 0340760443, ISBN-13: 978-0340760444

Important dates:

Aug. 24	Classes begin
Sep. 7	Labor Day (No Classes)
Oct. 30	Course drop deadline (Last day to drop with an automatic W)
Nov. 26 – 27	Thanksgiving Holiday (No Classes)
Dec. 3	Last day of classes
Dec. 9	Final exam: 10:00 am – 12:45 pm

Course Description

To provide the students with a broad-based understanding of forensic pathology including pathologic process, injury, or disease that results in or initiates the events that lead to death (mechanism of death), manner of death, examination of wound and injuries both at autopsy and occasionally in a clinical setting. The primary goal of the course is to provide a basic working knowledge for the interpretation of medical facts and the circumstances surrounding unexplained or violent deaths. In addition, the role of related forensic science disciplines will be presented, with emphasis on forensic pathology which plays an important role in crime investigation, because it provides important pieces of information.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in this course is critical to your success. Not only attending lecture aid in your understanding of course material, attendance is mandatory. If missing four class hours, you will be dropped from this class.

Evaluation

Four exams will be given for this course. Three exams will be given during the semester. The final exam will be given during the finals week of this semester on Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Grading

Your grade in this course is based on a combination of exams, and participation in class. Grades are based on a straight percentage scale; there is no curve and no +/- grades are awarded. So, an A=100-90%, a B=89-80%, a C=79-70%, a D=69-60%, and F=<60%.

Grading Policy:

Exam 1: 20% of final grade

Exam 2: 20% of final grade

Exam 3: 20% of final grade

Final Exam: 20% of final grade

Attendance: 10% of final grade

Class Activities: 10% of final grade

Total: 100%

Some pop quizzes may be given during the class hours for extra credits.

MAKE- UP EXAM POLICY: There is no make-up test!

Academic Integrity Policy: Information on UTEP's Policies regarding academic integrity can be found at <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785>

Civility Statement: Cell phones are either to be turned off or turned to vibrate during lecture; talking during lecture is not permitted. Please be respectful to all students' right to learn without disruption.

Disability Statement: If a student has or suspect he/she has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5184 or at cass@utep.edu or go to room 106 in the Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DDS accommodation letters and instructions.

Military: If one serves in the military and has the potential of being called up, that fact should be made known to the instructor.

The following schedule is tentative, and the dates of lectures and exams may be changed.

1st week:

Introduction

The pathophysiology of death

2nd week:

The pathophysiology of death (Hypostasis)

The pathophysiology of death (Rigor Mortis)

3rd week

Labor Day (No Classes)

The pathophysiology of death (Decomposition)

4th week:

The pathology of wounds (Bruises)

The pathology of wounds (Abrasions and Lacerations)

5th week:

Exam 1

The pathology of wounds (Incised wounds)

6th week:

Head and spinal injuries

Head and spinal injuries

7th week:

Head and spinal injuries

Chest and abdominal injuries

8th week:

Self-inflicted injuries

Exam2

9th week:

Gunshot and explosion death

Gunshot and explosion death

10th week:

Gunshot and explosion death

Burns and scalds

11th week:

Burns and scalds

Electrical fatalities

12th week:

Suffocation and Asphyxia

Third Exam

13th week:

Suffocation and Asphyxia

Fatal pressure on the neck

14th week:

The immersion deaths

The immersion deaths

15th week:

The Pathology of sudden death

Carbon monoxide poisoning

17th week:

Final Examination (Dec. 9, 10:00 am – 12:45 pm)

Rules for tests:

- 1. Cell phones must be turn off!**
- 2. No listening device may be worn**