



## Syllabus

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**FORS 3370**

# Forensic Science

**Fall 2023 Syllabus**

## Course Description

An introduction to forensic science, emphasizing the multi-disciplinary approach required to document, understand, and solve forensic problems. Topics for this course include those on general science and applying scientific methods to answer questions of interest to the legal system. Case studies will be used to illustrate how science was used to solve crimes.

**Catalog Description:** Introduction to Forensic Science (3-0). This is a course exploring various areas of forensic science. Students will participate in discussion and hands-on assignments to gain a real world understanding of what forensic science entails. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to: 1) Define and distinguish multiple disciplines of forensic science; 2) Understand types of evidence and how they can affect the criminal justice system; 3) Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental elements and techniques utilized in forensic science; 4) Apply the scientific method to the analysis of various types of physical evidence; 5) Identify the capabilities and limitations of crime laboratories; 6) Learn the responsibilities of a forensic scientist.

**Textbook:** Criminalistics, Richard Saferstein, 12<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN: 978-0-134-47759-6 (paperback), or e-edition

**Other Required Material:** internet access via laptop, tablet, or phone for use in class. You will need to be able to read .pdf files, use a word processor, watch videos, and download/install software.

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## Course Objectives