# 8/11/2020

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 4 September 2020

Term and Year of Implementation: Fall 2020

**Course Title:** Crime Scene Investigation

**BRCC Course Rubric:** CJUS 2243

**Previous Course Rubric**: CJUS 224

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:**

**CIP Code:** 43.0111

**Course Description:** Provides students with the basic theoretical and philosophical understanding of the investigatory process. This course examines techniques and methods of crime scene investigation such as: fundamentals of preliminary investigations, identification, collection of evidence, and fingerprinting.

**Prerequisites:**  CJUS 1013 (or CJUS 101) with a grade of C or better

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 35

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Explain the role of law enforcement in collection, preservation, and interpretation of evidence from crime scenes.

2. Evaluate the various types of evidence typically available at a crime scene.

3. Apply relevant terminology, equipment, and methods involving crime scene investigations through simulation of hypothetical crime scene scenarios.

4. Explain relevant legal and ethical issues involved in investigating and processing a crime scene.

5. Identify the techniques and elements of an effective interrogation.

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Instructor-created objective exams during the semester/term to assess students' knowledge of correctional systems and practices, and all associated learning and programming outcomes.

2. Written assignments on various lecture topics and associated course learning outcomes for assessment of students’ comprehension of material and ability to express the comprehension of material in their own words.

3. Comprehensive final exam for assessment of all learning outcomes.

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. Introduction to the History and Fundamentals of a crime scene investigations

A. Job and Descriptions of crime scene investigators

B. Evolving history of crime scene investigations

C. CSI Effect

II. Crime Scene: Documenting and Reporting

A. First responder to scene

B. Recording of time, evidence, and witness information

C. Evaluation of scene

D. Writing the report

E. Crime scene sketch

III. Identification of Criminal Suspects: Field and Laboratory Services

A. Photo arrays and lineups

B. Witness identification

C. DNA analysis

D. Fingerprinting

E. Ballistics

IV. Physical Evidence Collection and Interpretation

A. Chain of custody in evidence collection

B. Crime lab assessment of evidence

V. Legal Issues in a Criminal Investigation

A. Search and seizure

B. Miranda warning

VI. Violent and Nonviolent Crime Exemplars

A. FBI Uniform Crime Reporting System

VII. Interviews and Interrogations

A. Police techniques in interviews and interrogations

VIII. Death Investigations

A. Classifications of death

B. Role of Coroner

IX. Court Testimony

A. Preparation

B. Professionalism

C. Written report versus memory