

Forensics Syllabus

Lambert High School 2020-2021

Supplies:

- Paper and pencil/pens, colored pencils (optional)
- Since this is a lab-based science class, I will occasionally email requesting supplies for a specific lab. For example: We always need paper towels, soap, Windex, wipes, etc.~~Thank you!

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 411202

Mrs. Tigue, Room 1211
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Mrs. Ziraldo, Room 1315
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Course Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts in Forensic Science, beginning with historical perspectives and covering the use of forensics to investigate and solve crimes. Units include history and development, crime scene evaluation, the crime lab, trace evidence, impressions, fingerprints, blood and DNA.

Extra Help Sessions

As the school year proceeds, we hope to offer consistent, in-person help times. At this time, all extra help must be scheduled by appointment and will most likely be virtual in nature through a platform like Google Meets or Microsoft Teams.

Grading

Course Average =

50% (1st semester) + 50% (2nd semester)

The midterm is a summative assessment and the final is a cumulative summative.

A:90-100; B:80-89; C:70-79; Fail<70

1st and 2nd semester Course work

Summative (75%) - Unit Tests, labs, projects
 Formative (25%) – homework; quizzes

Standards

A complete description of the GPS standards are available online at www.georgiastandards.org.

- SFS1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to properly conduct a forensic investigation of a crime scene.
- SFS2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information on various scientific techniques to analyze physical, trace, and digital evidence.
- SFS3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information relating to biological evidence in forensic investigations.
- SFS4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze the role of impression evidence in order to make a physical match examination
- SFS5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to Medicolegal Death Investigations.

What you can expect from me for each unit:

Unit Calendar – Summative assignments will be posted in ITS Learning. Please use ItsLearning as a guide for Assessments, etc.

Lab – Labs are an integral part of any science classroom. In order to participate in lab, you must return the student info sheet signed by you and your parent complete a safety module in itslearning in addition to following all safety rules. You can expect a minimum of one lab per unit. These will **mostly** be formative grades.

Quizzes – give you an opportunity to see how well you know the material; can be given at *any* time and do not have to be previously announced [formative]

Homework – Homework is **usually** not assigned in this course with the exception of completing assignments given in class, studying for tests and quizzes or projects/lab reports.

Tests – will be summative grades. We will have approximately 5 per semester.

Projects: Projects will be assigned throughout the year, depending on difficulty/work required they can be either summative or formative.

Textbooks: No textbook will be required for this class. Everything you need for success will be posted on ITS learning or handed out during class.

Personal: Our class will be interesting, fun and you will learn a lot! I will do my best to support you this year and be your best cheerleader☺ I hope you have an awesome year in Forensics!

What I expect from you for the course:

#1 – Come to class on time and prepared. If you were absent, check ItsLearning, ask a friend and/or your teacher and complete any assignment missed.

#2 – Turn work in **on time**.

As your teacher, I will hold you responsible for late work and missing assignments by labeling them as MISSING in Student Portal. In an effort to create opportunities for all students to turn in late or missing assignments, LASSO will be available on Saturdays throughout each semester as well as Lunch and Learn support available daily.

If the summative has been completed, the opportunity for completing formatives is over. Grading will always be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner.

“Summative evaluations may not be given until ALL formative feedback has been returned.”

#3 – Attend help sessions as needed and never hesitate to ask when you need help. The day before the test is too late to truly get the help you need.

#4 – Always follow the safety rules and specific guidelines for each lab.

Introduction to the Course for PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Dear parents: please see the letter linked here for some important information regarding our class:

[Parent Letter](#)

Make-Up Work All missed work and assessments are the responsibility of the student when they are absent from school. A student who is absent on the class day before a regularly scheduled assessment will be responsible for completing the assignment on the regularly scheduled day and time. Students with extended absences will be given five (5) school days to make up the assessment and/or other assignments. This does not include major projects, research papers, etc., where the deadline has been posted in advance. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period of time to make up work if there are extenuating circumstances. See #2 (What I expect from you section) for late work policy.

Guidelines for BYOT Use:

LHS teachers and students will work together to ensure the most productive learning environment in the classroom. Use of BYOT supports the use of technology devices as a tool in a student's education.

- Devices are to be "powered down" as the classroom teacher directs.
- Disregard of a directive by the classroom teacher to power down will be addressed with a progressive approach beginning with a verbal warning.
- Continued disregard of a directive /request by the classroom teacher to power down may be considered insubordination and addressed as a code of conduct violation.
- During summative assessments, devices will be powered down and put out of sight until all students in the classroom have completed the assessment and all materials have been collected by the teacher.

Academic Integrity:

- Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest and responsible manner. In the classroom, academic integrity involves a range of issues, including – but not limited to – cheating, plagiarism, and facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others. Violations of academic integrity as outlined in the Forsyth County Schools Code of Conduct will be addressed according to the guidelines listed there.

Learning Resources/Textbook(s): All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience of this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked.
<http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
- **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. <https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances.
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Safety Goggles

To reduce the possible spread COVID-19 by lab safety goggles, every lab will be equipped with a spray bottle of 70% isopropyl alcohol solution to sterilize goggles between each use. Students are welcome to bring their own goggles provided the goggles meet safety standards. They must be splash proof and have a Z87+ impact rating. The linked goggles should meet the safety guidelines required at most colleges as well. Safety glasses are not acceptable protection. Suitable goggles are linked below. An electronic copy of the syllabus can be accessed on Itslearning so that you can follow the links.

Flinnsci.com [AP3306](#) or [AP3309 for Fog Free.](#)

Amazon.com - [Green Safety Goggles](#)

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with their privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Digital	Privacy Policy
Earth Science - Holt, Rinehart & Winston Glencoe (2008)	Digital Access On-level	Permissions
Living in the Environment - Cengage (2014)	Owl Access Advanced Placement	Permissions
Georgia Virtual School	Environmental Science On-level AP Environmental Science Earth Systems	http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/terms.aspx
Discovery Education	Classlink Access SEV1-5 Classlink Access SES1-6	Discovery Media Terms of Use
NewsELA Environmental Science	Classlink Access CLEVER	NewsELA Privacy Policy

** The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.*

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	NSTA Podcast for the Classroom	Blick on Flicks	Policy
	M.I.T. OpenCourseware	M.I.T. Science, Technology, & Society	Privacy Policy
	HHMI biointeractive	Classroom Resources	Ed Framework In Progress

*** The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student's teacher via email.*

Labster

To support student learning, your instructor would like to use Labster.com to provide a safe laboratory experience. Labster.com will provide an online platform for students to simulate a laboratory experience. This is a requested lab fee of \$8 to cover the fee for registration with the website. Please speak to your individual instructor if you have questions or concerns.

Course Topics and Tentative Schedule

First Semester *(Changes may occur to fit the needs of our students) *

Unit One –Safety, Observations, Law, Crime Scenes—Identifying and Collecting Evidence

Unit Two – Autopsy and Body Decomposition

Unit Three – Entomology and Anthropology

Unit Four –Trace Evidence: Hair and Fiber, Pollen/Soil

Unit Five –Trace Evidence: Glass; Casts/Impressions/Odontology/Handwriting/Chromatography/Forgery)

Second Semester

Unit Six– Fingerprinting/DNA Fingerprinting

Unit Seven—Drug ID and Toxicology

Unit Eight – Arson/Explosions and Psychological Profiling/Interrogations

Unit Nine– Blood, Bloodstain Patters, Tool Marks, Ballistics

Unit Ten—Crime Scene Investigation