

Forensic Science
Fall Semester/Spring Semester
2018/2019 School Year

Forensic Science is a semester course that will explore crime scene investigation and the use of science and technology in analyzing crime scene evidence. The course will incorporate aspects of physical science and biology in understanding how evidence is analyzed and interpreted. At the conclusion of the course, students will test their knowledge by investigating and solve a murder mystery.

Text: Forensic Science, Fundamentals & Investigations. Anthony J. Bertino. 2009. South-Western Cengage Learning. Ohio.

Companion book: Death's Acre. Bill Bass and Jon Jefferson. 2003. The Berkeley Publishing Group. New York, New York.

Additional Resources: Forensic Files; an American documentary-style series that illustrates how forensic science is used to solve crimes, mysterious accidents, and outbreaks of illness.

Topics:

- I. Scientific Method and Observation
- II. Crime Scene investigation and Evidence
- III. Hair Evidence
- IV. Fiber and Textile Evidence
- V. Pollen and Spore Evidence
- VI. Fingerprints
- VII. DNA Analysis
- VIII. Blood Spatter Evidence
- IX. Death: Meaning, Manner, Mechanism, Cause and Time
- X. Forensic Anthropology
- XI. Toxicology and Chemical Analyses
- XII. Forgery and Counterfeiting

Materials: Pen, pencil, notebook for taking notes and a binder or folder for storing handouts, assignments and lab reports. Coloring pencils, calculators and measuring devices will be provided.

ASSESSMENT

Your grade in this course will be based on the building grading policy:

- Your grade is based 100% on assessments.

- Your grade is based on 90% assessment/ 10% homework/classwork completion

Note the following:

- 1 retake is offered to all students per summative assessment; the grade will be averaged with the first exam. The second exam is based on teacher's discretion. A testing ticket must be performed BEFORE the retake is given. This can include but not limited to the following: any missed homework, any assigned supplemental work, an AC visit for help. The make-up date will be discussed on an as needed basis.
- It is the student's responsibility to verify his/her eligibility for reassessment with the teacher and to schedule the reassessment. The retest will NOT be given during class time. It must be scheduled during Academic Coaching or before/after school. Teachers will set the re-test date.
- Quizzes are not included in retakes; teacher discretion.
- When outside work is assigned, it is expected to be completed. It is practice for the subject at hand.
- Papers/ projects: With these types of assessments, points will be deducted for late submission: 1 day – 10 points; 2 days -20 points; 3- days 30- points; 4 days – 40 points. See teacher if issues arise.
- Labs – all science labs must be completed – teacher will provide the process for this on an as needed basis.
 - During lab classes, students will be required to abide by all safety rules. If a student breaks a safety rule, they may be dismissed from the lab and receive a zero for that day.

** QA scores that reflect information that have been taught and tested will count as 1 test grade per 9 week period. The finale exam for the year is not up for retake.

GRADE SCALE:

A 92.5 – 100	A- 89.5 – 92.4	B+ 87.5 – 89.4	B 82.5 – 87.4
B- 79.5 – 82.4	C+ 77.5 – 79.4	C 72.5 – 77.4	C- 69.5 – 72.4
D+ 67.5 – 69.4	D 62.5 – 67.4	D- 59.5 – 62.4	F 0 – 59.4

COURSE POLICIES

• Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to be on time and actively participating in every class.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is a **PRIORITY** in Wellston City Schools! **EXCUSED** absences will allow students to make up any missed assignments. Students will be given one day for each day each excused absent to make up work unless other arrangements are made in advance. To be successful in this course, students need to be present in this class. Please note that I do **NOT** vary from the school policy regarding **UNEXCUSED** absences. For **UNEXCUSED** absences, you may make up your work for partial credit; you have as many days that you missed to make it up. You can retake an assessment due to an **UNEXCUSED** absence, but the retake will be averaged with a zero.

- **Make Up Work**

Make up tests and quizzes resulting from excused absences should be scheduled with the teacher and completed within roughly the same number of days as the student was absent. When a student is absent their work is put into the “Make Up” folder. It is the student’s responsibility to collect their work, complete it, and hand it in. They are also responsible for scheduling missing assessments. Assessments that are not made up will eventually be given a grade of 0%. You might be scheduled to attend an AC session to complete missed work.

- **Extra Credit**

Extra credit is not given. Bonus questions may appear on assessments that are based on previously learned material. .

- **FOOD & DRINK**

Building wide: Food is not allowed in the room except for breakfast from school cafeteria, rewards issued by the teacher or the “snack shack” period. Only water in a clear bottle will be allowed in the classroom unless purchased from the “Thirsty Camel.” Teachers have a right to not allow food or drink in their classroom.

- No pop is allowed in the science classroom.
- Only water may be drank during regular class time.
- No food, gum or drinks in the classroom during labs.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in class with other students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an e-mail, e-mail attachment, text, disk, zip drive, or hard copy. Copying down something that you do not understand on homework, classwork, or an assessment is considered cheating. Cheating of any form will result in a zero; 2nd offense will result in suspension. **DON'T CHEAT!**

CELL PHONE:

All cell phones are to be off and out of sight unless they are required for a classroom activity. Students may be asked to place their phones in a secure location for the duration of the class if he/she cannot keep it out of sight. If a cell phone is out or on during an assessment, the student will receive a 0 for the test; the second time he/she is caught, the student will be suspended. Cell phones will be asked for if the cell phone is not put away properly. The cell phone will be given to the office and the office will issue discipline. This includes ear buds. Please refer to student handbook

GENERAL BUILDING RULES/CONSEQUENCES:

WHS has 3, building wide, classroom behavior expectations:

1. Follow all directions/rules
2. Respect all people and property
3. Be on time, prepared and ready to work.

** Teachers will provide their individual rules that reflect these expectations on the first day of school.

Classroom consequences may include but not limited to the following:

1 verbal warning may be issued, Student conference, reassigned seat/period, parental call, lunch/after/before school detention, behavior assignment and/or office write up. **The expectations for this classroom are the following:**

Teacher comments:

Conduct:

- Bring materials to class every day – paper and pencil
- Always do your best work.
- Respect others and their property.
- Just because you know profanity does not give you the right to try and put it into every other sentence, respect your fellow classmates and use appropriate language at all times.
- Cheating (including plagiarism) will result in a grade of zero.
- Only water may be drank during regular class time.
- **No food, gum or drinks in the classroom during labs.**

- Cell phones are to be turned off and placed either in the cell phone caddy located by the teacher's desk or face down on your desk. The teacher/school is not responsible for theft.
- Note: If you are caught using your cell phone during class, the 1st offense will result in lunch detention, 2nd offense is after school detention. If you are caught using cell phones during testing, it could result in suspension.
- Restroom usage shall be emergencies only, use the facilities prior to class.

COURSE OUTLINE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE...)

Quarter 1: Observation Skills/Crime Scene investigation and Evidence/Hair

Quarter 2: Finger Prints/Blood & Blood Spatter/ Forensic Anthropology/Death: Meaning,
Manner, Mechanism, Cause and Time

Return by August 31, 2018

Forensic Science

I have read and understand the syllabus and agree to abide by the rules and procedures set forth within the syllabus. I understand that if I do not abide by this agreement I can be asked to leave the class and be required if necessary, to retake it when it is next offered.

Student Signature:_____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____