

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

CJUS 362

CRIME SCENE MANAGEMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will address critical thinking, resource management, supervision, and investigative failures in criminal investigations. A detailed explanation of how to effectively manage a forensics investigation and how to preserve and present evidence will be covered.

RATIONALE

This course will serve as a bridge between crime scene investigation and criminalistics. It will concern the proper collection of evidence at the crime scene, as well as the forensic evidence aspect of criminal investigation, identifying evidence, collecting it, preserving it, recording it, processing it, and analyzing it in the laboratory context. Modules/Weeks will give the student some insight into proper evidence collection, interpretation, and presentation in a legal setting with a foundation built upon God's unique complexities.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Categorize the functional roles of evidence by primary function, given appropriate background information.
- B. Identify the conceptual stages in a criminal investigation and identify associated activities for each stage.
- C. Apply relevant tests and examinations for linking and associating physical evidence in various scenarios.

- D. Explain the basic concepts of firearms, DNA, serology, trace evidence, latent prints, handwriting analysis, and other forensic disciplines, regarding how they are used in death investigations.
- E. Identify key information sources and data systems available to investigators, strategies for their use, and the legal or administrative privacy restrictions imposed upon their use.
- F. Explain the moral, theological, economical, and ethical implications of a biblical view of social justice.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist
After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forum (3)
The student will participate in 3 Discussion Board Forums. The student will post his/her thread of at least 400 words. The student must then reply to 2 or more peers' threads in at least 200 words.
- D. Case Study
The student will read 2 cases that relate to gathering evidence. The student will then analyze these cases in 600–800 words, paying specific attention to explaining the foundation for understanding the dimensional aspects of evidence gathering.
- E. Position Paper
The student will read through the scholarly literature on a provided topic and, in a 5–7-page paper, discuss the various perspectives on the matter. The student will need to cite 5–7 scholarly sources and form an opinion based upon research. The student should be sure to explore the moral, theological, economical, and ethical questions surrounding such a move in policy. In other words, be sure to articulate his/her Christian worldview on this particular issue as it relates to God's perspective of social justice.
- F. Exams (3)
There are 3 exams in this course. Exams are open-book/open-notes, but may not be discussed with any person. Even though the questions are in multiple-choice format, they cannot be answered by simply looking up the answer in the readings. The student must think, reflect upon, and choose the best answer based on the readings. Each exam must be completed in 30 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

- A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist

10

Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 pts ea)		300
Case Study		100
Position Paper		300
Exam 1	(Modules 1–3)	100
Exam 2	(Modules 4–5)	100
Exam 3	(Modules 6–7)	100
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g., death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. CJUS Policy

The nature of the criminal justice community demands that persons involved be of a high level of integrity, and education is not merely academic in nature, but is holistic. Students enrolled in CJUS courses will be held to a high standard. Self-control is imperative for CJUS practitioners. If not “merely” to honor Christ, your family, and this academic institution, on a purely pragmatic level, in anticipation of future employability in the career field of your choice, conduct yourselves so as not to place yourselves in difficult and embarrassing situations.

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

CJUS 362

Textbooks: Fish et al., *Crime Scene Investigation* (2014).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Fish et al.: ch. 1 1 presentation 2 case studies	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Case Study	10 0 100
2	Fish et al.: chs. 2–3 1 presentation	DB Forum 1	100
3	Fish et al.: chs. 4–5 1 presentation	Exam 1	100
4	Fish et al.: chs. 6–7 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	100
5	Fish et al.: chs. 8–9 1 presentation	Exam 2	100
6	Fish et al.: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	100
7	Fish et al.: chs. 13–14 1 presentation	Exam 3	100
8	Fish et al.: ch. 15 1 presentation	Position Paper	300
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.