

MASTER SYLLABUS

**CRMJ 1087 BASIC CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION
(Formerly PST 1087)
NASHVILLE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
POLICE SCIENCE**

Instructor:
Office/Office Hours:
Phone:
Email:
Classroom & Times:
Course Credit: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of the principles of crime scene investigation. Topics include scene assessment, photography, diagramming, evidence collection, processing of evidence, crime scene preservation, and the presentation of the evidence into a court of law. Prerequisites: Completion of all Learning Support competencies in reading and writing.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Each trainee, upon successful completion of this course, will:

1. Ascertain information from witnesses and first responding officers as to what happened.
2. Visually walk-thru and assess evidence found at the scene.
3. Document evidence through photography.
4. Document evidence through crime scene sketches and diagrams.
5. Conduct the collection of evidence and the processing of the evidence collected.

TEXTBOOK:

Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation 7th Edition by Barry A.J. Fisher. ISBN: 978-0849316913.

Disclaimer: Textbooks frequently change editions, so please be sure to check with the school bookstore to verify the current ISBN of the textbook before purchasing the textbook.

GRADE SCALE:

Percentage	Grade

REQUIRED STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

1. Attendance of classroom lectures, classroom participation.
2. Successful completion of directed practicum
3. Read the text and selected works.
4. Complete all project work.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

A student is expected to attend all scheduled classes. Students must be present at the time roll is called in order to be counted present. Students who are absent, and wish to be excused for those absences, must provide written documentation supporting their non-attendance. 10% of unexcused absences will result in a letter grade demotion. Students who violate the attendance policy will be given a final grade of “FA” (failure, attendance-related) or “FN” (failure, never attended class).

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. “Plagiarism may result from: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your works” (A Writer’s Reference, 331). Academic dishonesty may be defined as, but is not limited to, intentionally trying to deceive by claiming credit for the work of another person, using information from a web page or source without citing the reference, fraudulently using someone else’s work on an exam, paper, or assignment, recycling your own work from another course, purchasing papers or materials from another source and presenting them as your own, attempting to obtain exams/materials/assignments in advance of the date of administration by the instructor, impersonating someone else in a testing situation, providing confidential test information to someone else, submitting the same assignment in two different classes without requesting both instructors’ permission, allowing someone else to copy or use your work, using someone else’s work to complete your own, altering documents, transcripts or grades, and forging a faculty/staff member’s signature.

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course.

If a student believes that he/she has been erroneously accused of academic dishonesty and if his/her final grade has been lowered as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

Classroom Conduct Policy:

Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The instructor has primary responsibility for control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity. He/she can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct which violates the general rules and regulations of the College. Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but is not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (e.g., offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevents concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (e.g., disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games, etc.). Each student should refer to the current Nashville State Student Handbook for guidelines for student conduct.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) STATEMENT:

Nashville State Technical Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any accommodation(s) for this class, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Students should not be given special accommodations in the classroom unless an accommodation form from Student Disability Services is completed and distributed to the faculty member.

- Student Disabilities Coordinator: (615) 353-3721 Office: S-114

It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing.

NOTE:

This syllabus is a master syllabus. Specific course requirements are subject to revision at the discretion of the individual instructor. A course syllabus will be provided the first day of class.