

MASTER SYLLABUS

**CRMJ 1097 SURFACE SKELETONS & BURIED BODIES
(Formerly PST 1097)
Nashville State Community College
Police Science**

Instructor:

Office/Office Hours: By appointment

Phone:

Email:

Classroom & Times:

Course Credit: 3

Course Description:

This course focuses on techniques in locating clandestine bodies and graves. Topics include visual search indicators of burials, disturbances in nature, soil compaction, soil gas detection, cadaver dogs, and scavenging patterns. This class includes many hands-on exercises. *Prerequisites: DSPW 0700, DSPR 0700, CRMJ 1087.*

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Describe search indicators of burials by the disturbance of soil and soil compaction.
- Identify shallow graves through soil gas detection.
- Understand the use of a cadaver dog.

Course Competencies:

1. Provide the basic knowledge of the proper and effective use of science & technology in support of the police.
2. Provide students of crime scene investigation with the basics covering the proper ways to examine crime scenes.
3. Collect a wide variety of physical evidence that may be encountered at crime scenes.
4. Cover useful techniques, procedures and suggestions on how to locate, document, collect and process physical evidence associated with criminal acts and clandestine graves.

Textbook:

Forensic Recovery of Human Remains, by Tosha L. Dupras, John L. Schultz, Sandra M. Wheeler, and Lana J. Williams. 2nd Edition. 2011. CRC Press. ISBN: 9781439850305.

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.

Grading:

Coursework	Percentage

Grade Scale:

Percentage	Grade

Attendance:

You are expected to attend all classes. Attendance at all exams and tests is mandatory!

Missing more than 2 classes, including arriving late and leaving early, will result in a final grade of “FA” - (failure, attendance-related). Additionally, a student who misses class for two consecutive weeks without contacting the instructor will receive a “FA” or “FN” (failure, never attended class). To fail to attend may mean that you will miss a key theme that would prove harmful to your understanding and performance in the course.

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.