PST 1097 SURFACE SKELETONS & BURIED BODIES
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, PST 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:

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:
Grades will be awarded based in five parts. The five parts consist of attendance and class participation, three exams, and the final exam. Each part is worth 20 percent of your final grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coursework</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Class Participation</td>
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<td>Exam One</td>
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Grade Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>90 – 100%</td>
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**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.

**Make-up Exam Policy:**
**No provision is made for make-up exams.** In case of emergencies or extreme hardship, contact the instructor immediately. Documentation is required for medical or other pre-approved reasons.

**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 own words” (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 instructor’s permission
- allowing someone else to copy or use your work
- using someone else’s work to complete your own
- altering documents, transcripts or grades
- 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.**

**Classroom Conduct Policy:**
**Nashville State has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom.**

- 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 that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment is defined as:
  - Offensive language
  - Harassment of students or professors
  - Repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevent concentration on the subject taught
- Failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum
- Continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others;
  - Beepers
  - Cell phones
  - Palm pilots
  - Lap-top computers
  - Games

- Students who are removed from class for disruptive behavior will not be allowed to return until the issue is resolved.

Additionally, no eating in the classroom is allowed; no wearing of sunglasses is allowed in class, except in cases prescribed by a physician; sleeping or lounging in class is considered disruptive behavior and grounds for immediate dismissal.

**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: Katie Watts (615) 353-3721 Office: S-114

**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.*
### Class Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
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*Since this is a master syllabus, the class schedule is not available.*

You are responsible for reading each chapter that has been assigned. All tests will consist of lecture and chapter readings.