

PALOMAR COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR  
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course       A.A. degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** AJ 210 BASIC CRIME SCENE FORENSIC SCIENCE

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Appropriate language skills

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

Introduces various specialized disciplines including the crime lab functions, forensic instrumentation, forensic photography, crime scene processing, drug analysis, hair and fiber analysis, questioned documents, and fingerprint usage.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Describe the crime lab function.
2. Discuss various forensic functions (instrumentations).
3. Perform limited forensic photography.
4. Process and document a crime scene.
5. Describe basic drug analysis.
6. Describe how hair and fibers are analyzed.
7. Define a questioned document and describe how it is analyzed.
8. Discuss how fingerprints are used in criminal prosecutions.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- I. Crime lab functions and instrumentation
- II. Forensic photography
- III. Forensic pathology
- IV. Hair and fiber analysis
- V. Serology and DNA
- VI. Latent print recovery and identification
- VII. Forensic entomology
- VIII. Forensic odontology
- IX. Drug analysis
- X. Crime scene processing
- XI. Buried remains recovery
- XII. Questioned documents
- XIII. Forensic psychology

**REQUIRED READING:**

Saferstein, Robert. Criminalistics. 6th edition. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1997.

**SUGGESTED READING:**

Professional journals distributed by instructor.

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

Students will write six one page summaries of forensic articles from professional journals.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Crime scene investigation project, 5 pieces of evidence involving felony-level crime. Approximately 20-hour project.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes  No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

10% Quizzes  
20% Midterm  
40% Final  
10% Reading Assignments  
20% Crime Scene Project

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  Number of times course may be taken for  
credit: 1

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dr. Larry Roberts x2204

SIGNATURES ON FILE
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