SYLLABUS

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/2013
CIP CODE: 43.0107
SEMESTER: Departmental Syllabus
COURSE TITLE: Criminal Investigation
COURSE NUMBER: CRJS0201
CREDIT HOURS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE LOCATION: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE HOURS: Departmental Syllabus
TELEPHONE: Departmental Syllabus
EMAIL: KCKCC-issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.

PREREQUISITES: None

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with the KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstore.com for the required text for your particular class

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Scientific aspects of criminal investigation are emphasized, including recording the crime scene; collection, preservation, and examination of evidence; techniques of criminal investigation; and examination of the capabilities and limitations of the advanced police science laboratory. Provides an introduction to Criminal Investigation procedures, including theory of an investigation, case preparation, specific techniques of selected offences, questioning witnesses and suspects, and problems in criminal investigation.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, and panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Introduction
   A. Overview of the investigative process
   B. Goals & functions of the criminal investigator
   C. Responsibilities & interrelationships

II. Techniques
   A. Special uses of photography, note taking, sketching
   B. The importance of the “chain” (continuity) of evidence
   C. Searches
   D. Evidence gathering at specific crime scenes and writing effective reports
   E. Interviews/Interrogations
      1. Barriers to communication
      2. Cognitive Interviewing
      3. Questioning juveniles
4. Scientific aids
F. Suspect identification and arrest
   1. The 4th Amendment
   2. The arrest warrant
   3. Probable cause
   4. The Miranda warning
   5. Reasonable force
   6. The use of force continuum
   7. Profiling
   8. Informants
   9. Surveillance

III. Crimes Against Persons
A. Robbery
   1. Elements of the offense
   2. Special problems in investigation
B. Assault
   1. Elements of the offense
   2. Special problems in investigation
C. Sex Crimes
   1. Elements of the offense
   2. Special problems in investigation
D. Crimes Against Children
   1. Elements of the offense
   2. Special problems in investigation
E. Homicide
   1. Elements of the offense
   2. Special problems in investigation
      a. Murder
      b. Manslaughter
         i. Changes after death (the body)
         ii. National Guidelines for Death Investigation

IV. Crimes Against Property
A. Burglary
B. Larceny
C. Theft (including auto theft)
D. Arson
E. White-Collar Crime

V. Special Investigations
A. Illegal Drug Trafficking
B. Organized Crime
C. Gangs
D. Cults
E. Terrorism
F. Computer Crime
G. Presenting cases in court

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:

A. The student will be able to describe the goals, functions, responsibilities and interrelationships of a criminal investigator.
B. The student will be able to calculate the different needs for photography at various crime scenes.
C. The student will be able to explain the reasons for the importance of the “chain of evidence.”
D. The student will be able to list the requirements for handling of evidence.
E. The student will be able to explain the different requirements for interview and interrogations.
F. The student will be able to illustrate the proper procedure for identifying and arresting suspects.
G. The student will be able to describe the proper methods for investigating crimes against persons and property.
H. The student will be able to summarize proper procedures for the investigation of illegal drug trafficking, organized crime, gangs and cults.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The student will be able to describe the goals, functions, responsibilities and interrelationships of a criminal investigator.

1. The student will be able to describe the functions of the investigative process.
2. The student will be able to relate the goals and functions of the criminal investigator.
3. The student will be able to relate the basic functions of a criminal investigator.
4. The student will be able to classify the characteristics of an effective investigator.
5. The student will be able to point out how to handle emergency situations during an investigation.
6. The student will be able to prepare basic sketches of a crime scene.
7. The student will be able to categorize the responsibilities and interrelationships of criminal investigations.
8. The student will be able to describe how to conduct a search.

The student will be able to calculate the different needs for photography at various crime scenes.

9. The student will be able to employ the proper investigative techniques in photographing a crime scene, collecting and storing evidence, interviewing or interrogating suspects and witnesses, and making legal arrests.

The student will be able to explain the reasons for the importance of the “chain of evidence.”

10. The student will be able to explain the “chain of evidence” in a crime.

The student will be able to list the requirements for physical handling of evidence.

11. The student will be able to define “physical evidence.”
12. The student will be able to illustrate a “standard of comparison.”

The student will be able to explain the different requirements for interviews and interrogations.

13. The student will be able to enhance communication during an interview or interrogation.
14. The student will be able to name the barriers to communication.
15. The student will be able to relate how to “network” an interview.
16. The student will be able to differentiate between direct and indirect questions.
17. The student will be able to illustrate why special consideration exists when
questioning juveniles.

**The student will be able to illustrate the proper procedures for identifying and arresting suspects.**

18. The student will be able to show three primary sources of information.
19. The student will be able to explain the “public safety exception to the Miranda Warning.”
20. The student will be able to describe the use of the polygraph.
21. The student will be able to explain the term “reasonable force.”
22. The student will be able to define “psychological profiling.”

**The student will be able to describe the proper methods for investigations of crimes against persons and crimes against property.**

23. The student will be able to explain the techniques used and problems of investigating crimes against persons, and crimes against property.
24. The student will be able to illustrate the differences between the crimes of murder and manslaughter.
25. The student will be able to define the term “latent fingerprint.”
26. The student will be able to define “electronic fingerprinting.”
27. The student will be able to list the evidence value of tool marks.
28. The student will be able to explain DNA profiling.
29. The student will be able to explain the special problems in the investigation of crimes against children.
30. The student will be able to demonstrate the guidelines for interviewing sexually abused children.

**The student will be able to summarize proper procedures for the investigation of illegal drug trafficking, organized crime, gangs and cults.**

31. The student will be able to define the procedures for the investigation of narcotic & drug cases and other specialized investigations.
32. The student will be able to list the different types of surveillance that can be used.
33. The student will be able to give the objectives of a police raid.
34. The student will be able to describe the priorities in a hostage situation.
35. The student will be able to define “bias/hate crimes.”

**ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:** Student progress is evaluated by means that include, but are not limited to, exams, written assignments, and class participation.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and that seeks to increase understanding.

Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex,
religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

Kansas City Kansas Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact the Director of the Academic Resource Center, in Rm. 3354 or call at: 288-7670.