

# North Central Michigan College

## NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS

Last Date Revised: April 2011

**DIVISION/AREA:** Occupational Programs

**DEPARTMENT:** Criminal Justice Programs

**ASSOCIATE DEAN:** Robert J. Marsh, Ph.D.

**ORIGINATOR:** James A. Carter, MS

**DEAN OF INSTRUCTION:** Christine M. Hammond, Ph.D.

**HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:** 3

Credit hours: 3

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Contact hours: 52.8

**COURSE TITLE:** Criminal Investigation

**COURSE ALPHA:** A

**COURSE NUMBER:** CJ 202

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** An introduction to criminal investigation procedures including theory of an investigation; conduct at crime scenes; and collection and preservation of physical evidence. Instruction in the use of the various police scientific laboratory processes, fingerprints, ballistics, documentation, and photography is included.

**PREREQUISITE(S):** None

**COREQUISITE(S):**

**GENERAL EDUCATION DISTRIBUTION AREA:**  
(example: Social Science Group B)

**GENERAL EDUCATION/PROGRAM OUTCOMES:**

- Think critically and analytically
- Write and speak effectively
- Independently acquire knowledge

**COMPETENCIES:**

- An introduction to criminal investigation procedures including theory of an investigation; conduct at crime scenes; and collection and preservation of physical evidence. Instruction in the use of the various police scientific laboratory processes, fingerprints, ballistics, documentation, and photography is included.
- Demonstrates fundamental knowledge of forensic science techniques used in conducting criminal investigations; e.g., DNA analysis and latent print identification.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:** Students will learn the guidelines used by investigators for criminal investigations. They will also learn the concept of a crime scene, and related aspects that investigators use while obtaining evidence at crime scenes. The importance and aspects of physical evidence, interviews, interrogations, records and reports will be explained. Elements of certain crimes and violent crimes will be

explained in order for the student to develop an understanding of the complexity involved in criminal investigations.

*NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS*

*COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: Criminology - CJ 202*

Students will understand the importance of the word integrity and the hierarchy of a police department. Students will learn that the art of investigation is a science brought about by common sense, integrity, experience, learning and technology. This class is designed to prepare students for opportunities in the law enforcement field.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:** Lecture, exams and written paper/research assignments

**METHODS OF EVALUATION:** There will be three multiple choice/essay exams, each worth 100 points. There will also be a final paper worth 200 points and an oral presentation on your paper worth 50 points. Your oral presentation grade will be based on your knowledge, manner and the presentation's length.

Grades will be based on a percentage scale based on the points earned divided by the total possible points.

Extra Credit: Students will receive 1 point per class for attendance and participation. Students will also be able to take a glossary test worth a maximum of 40 points. This is an opportunity for 56 extra credit points (10% max).

Grading scale: The percentage scale is as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
E	59 & under

**REQUIRED TEXT AT TIME OF COURSE ADOPTION/REVISION:**

TEXTS: Criminal Investigation, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition; Swanson, Chamelin, Territo and Taylor, McGraw-Hill Company, 2009, ISBN: 978007340539

OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: None

**Reasonable accommodations can be provided for students with documented disabilities. Please contact Learning Support Services for assistance in Room 533 of the Student and Community Resource Center (SCRC), or call (231) 348-6817.**

**SUGGESTED TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION:**

*(List general content description of what is being covered each week)*

WEEK 1	Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2
WEEK 2	Chapters 3 and 4 w/evidence technician, crime scene sketching and photography
WEEK 3	Chapters 5 and 6
WEEK 4	Chapters 7 and 8
WEEK 5	Exam #1 and witness interview exercise
WEEK 6	Chapters 9 and 10
WEEK 7	Chapters 11, 12 and 13
WEEK 8	Chapters 14, 15 and 16
WEEK 9	Exam #2 and elements of crime, search warrant exercise
WEEK 10	Chapters 17 and 18 w/K-9 demonstration
WEEK 11	Chapters 19 and 20 w/accident reconstruction presentation
WEEK 12	Chapters 21 and Prosecutor presentation (Final paper due)
WEEK 13	Final exam and review of witness and search warrant exercises
WEEK 14	Mock crime scene, process, investigate and develop hypothesis-discussion
WEEK 15	Paper presentations
WEEK 16	Paper presentations cont'd and Glossary test

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism and cheating on assignments, cheating on laboratory work or examinations, having another person take an exam in one's place, substituting another's work as one's own, falsifying records or providing misinformation regarding one's credentials; unauthorized collaboration on computer assignments and unauthorized access to and use of computer programs, including modifying computer files created by others and representing that work as one's own. Students are expected to adhere to the standards of documentation outlined by their instructor. Individual faculty members may determine appropriate consequences for proven cases of academic dishonesty (refer to Instructor's class syllabi). Instructors shall deal with incidents of academic dishonesty in accordance with the provisions of the NCMC Student Handbook.

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION/REVISION BY THE CRD/AP COMMITTEE ON \_\_\_\_\_