Course: FORENSIC SCIENCE     E-mail: jonathan.poe@dvusd.org
Teacher: Jonathan Poe         Voice Mail: (623) 445 - 7397
Room: 733                    Prep Hour: 2nd Period
Web Page/Canvas Link: dvusd.instructure.com
Tutoring Hours: Monday thru Thursday (2:25 - 2:40 p.m.) or by appt.

CLASS MISSION STATEMENT:

TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE ROLE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE IN ENFORCING LAWS AND ENSURING JUSTICE.

Course Description

This lab course concentrates on the application of science to civil and criminal laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. Labs are designed to collect and analyze evidence. Some material presented in this class is of a graphic nature and may be offensive to some people. Student discretion is advised.

Semester 1 Units of Study
1. Criminal Justice and the Law
2. Introduction to Forensic Science
3. Types of Evidence
4. Crime Scene Processing
5. Fingerprints
6. Hair
7. Fibers
8. Document/Handwriting Analysis
9. Drugs

Semester 2 Units of Study
1. Toxicology: Poisons and Alcohol
2. Soil
3. Glass
4. Blood
5. DNA
6. Death Investigations
7. Human Remains
8. Ballistics
**Target Learning Goals:**

Welcome to Forensic Science! I hope you will enjoy learning about science and the law as much as I enjoy teaching it. We will cover a wide range of topics and objectives in accordance with the science standards established by the State of Arizona. These standards and objectives include:

1. Formulate predictions, questions, or hypotheses based on observations and appropriate resources.
2. Design, conduct, and communicate the results of controlled investigations.
3. Describe how the scientific method is used to help solve forensic problems.
4. Identify individual, cultural, and technological contributions to scientific knowledge.
5. Relate scientific understanding and process to social, civic, and legal perspectives.
6. Demonstrate the proper sequence of events in processing a crime scene.
7. Analyze physical evidence and circumstantial evidence to link the victim, the suspect, and the crime
8. Apply scientific thought to crime investigations

**Grading Policy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 60%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grades are cumulative for each semester. The grade book categories are as follows:

1. **ASSESSMENTS = 65%**
   - TESTS/QUIZZES/PROJECTS = 40%
   - LABS = 25%

2. **ASSIGNMENTS/PARTICIPATION = 15%**

3. **FINAL EXAMS = 20%**
   - PERFORMANCE TASK = 10%
   - MULTIPLE CHOICE FINAL EXAM = 10%
• **No extra credit** will be accepted.
• **Grades will not be rounded** at the end of the semester (The electronic gradebook prevents this).

**Make-Up Work:**

You have one school day for every absence day past the due date of any work. The make-up work can be found in the Canvas App/Canvas Website (dvusd.instructure.com). You **MUST** inform me when you have submitted make-up work electronically.

Labs & Tests must be made up at designated times. Generally, 3 opportunities will be given - the next MTSS period, a before school time, and an after school time. These times will be posted in Canvas. It is your responsibility to choose one and show up at that designated time. If you are not able to make it for any of the designated times, then you must communicate this with me before the designated times have passed so that we can make other arrangements.

**Late Work Policy:**

Any assignment not turned in by the time it is due is late except for excused absences. Homework can be turned in 1 day late for up to 50% credit. Classwork (assignments that are completed during class) cannot be turned in late since ample time is given for completion unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

**Re-take Policy:**

Students will have the opportunity to re-take up to 2 end of unit tests per semester. To qualify, you must come in for tutoring and re-take the test within 1 week of receiving your original score.

**Required Materials:**

- iPad WITH CHARGER
- Ear buds or earphones
- Pencils and pens
- Loose-leaf Lined Paper
- Pocket folder to keep assignments you are currently working on & graded work that is returned to you
- A notebook (composition, spiral, etc.) for recording notes

**THE REST OF THIS SYLLABUS IS INFORMATION THAT ALL TEACHERS ARE REQUIRED TO INCLUDE IN THEIR SYLLABI AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY READ IT IN ANOTHER SYLLABUS, PLEASE JUST BRIEFLY REVIEW IT.**
**Powerschool Access**
The Powerschools site allows parents/guardians and students to access the student's grades, attendance, and other information. If you need your access information, please stop by the front desk during business hours. You will need a photo I.D. The web address is: ps.dvusd.org/public

**Make-Up Work (Continued):**
Upon return to class after an absence, a student has one school day for each day missed to make up work/test assigned during his/her absence regardless of the number of days absent. For example, if a student is absent on Thursday and Friday, he/she will have Monday and Tuesday of the following week to make up work and must turn in the work that was assigned during the days absent on Wednesday. Teachers may choose to schedule an appointment with the student to formulate a plan for the completion of make-up work.

Coursework and assessments assigned prior to the absence(s) may still be due on the date assigned or due on the first day that the student returns to class.

**Long Term Project Policy**
Long term projects are due on the date and time assigned, as defined in writing in advance by the teacher. NO EXCEPTIONS. THIS SUPERSEDES THE MAKE-UP POLICY. If the student is absent or the class does not meet that day, the PROJECT IS STILL DUE ON THE DAY ASSIGNED.

**Electronic Device Use**
Technology (cell phones, iPods, hand-held devices, etc.) use in the classroom is intended to enhance the learning environment for all students; however, any use of technology that substantially degrades the learning environment, promotes dishonesty or illegal activities, is prohibited. If the instructor determines that the use of technology is a distraction to the learning process, either of the student using the technology or to those around him/her, the student may, at the discretion of the teacher, be asked to discontinue the use of technology in the classroom.

**Personal Electronic Device Use:**
Personal Electronic Devices include cell phones, iPods, other mp3 players and similar technology devices used for entertainment and communication/social media. Students are expected to refrain from the use of electronic devices for personal entertainment and/or communication (i.e. email, Instagram, Facebook, etc.) during instructional time (as determined by the teacher or classroom designee). While students may freely use these devices before and after school, during passing period, and at lunch - the teacher will limit the use of personal devices and for which purposes during class to ensure that all students are focused and ready to learn.

**Use of Electronic Devices to Facilitate Learning:**
Sandra Day O'Connor High School will begin to integrate the use of tablets, laptops, and smart phones as a learning tool in the classroom. Once the technology tools are added to the classroom for learning, the classroom teacher will inform students as to when they may use their device and for which purposes. Students must adhere to their teacher's guidelines for use and appropriate times for use. Any student who violates the teacher's guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action.

*Please note - students may not access their personal devices, whether for entertainment or learning, if the teacher has stated that the classroom activities at that time do not warrant use. For example, during testing or assessments.*

**Adherence to the O'Connor Academic Integrity Code**
All students enrolled in Forensic Science will adhere to the framework and guidelines set forth in the O'Connor High School Academic Integrity Code. Cheating and Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The purpose of this code is to promote a positive learning environment for all involved. As humans, we will make mistakes as we grow. It is understood that we can learn from those mistakes and become better individuals in the future. Any student who violates this code will be referred to the Students Rights and Responsibilities handbook and assignment of appropriate consequences.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Cheating: In cheating, a student is taking the work of another, on any assignment, and claiming it as his/her own. At SDOHS cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Copying and/or offering homework verbally, in written form, or by electronic means from/to another student.
- Copying and/or offering questions and/or answers on tests or quizzes verbally, in written form, or by electronic means from/to another student.
- Pressuring other students to copy and/or offer homework, answers and/or questions on tests or quizzes verbally, in written form or by electronic means.
- Bringing in and using unauthorized information during class time, including information stored in any electronic device.
- Offering or receiving information under circumstances in which information is not to be shared.
- Having anyone, including parents or tutors, complete assignments and submitting the work as one's own.
- Presenting collaborative work as independent work and independent work as collaborative. (In group work, one person should not and will not bear the burden for the entire group assignment.)
- Copying answers from answer guides in texts.
- Fabricating data, information, or sources. Presenting made up material as authentic.

Plagiarism: The act of plagiarism may include direct copying, but it may also be more complex than verbatim repetition. A student, in preparing a project for a class, will have plagiarized if he/she has taken information from sources without citing the sources that have been used. Plagiarized material may appear in a student's paper as word-for-word copying, a summation, or a paraphrase of another's ideas. A student has plagiarized whether the material from another source has been taken in whole or in part. In effect, by not naming the source, the student is claiming the work of another as his/hers. At SDOHS plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Submitting images and/or documents in whole or in part from the Internet without citation of the source(s).
- Copying another's work.
- Using another's ideas without proper citations.
- Incorporating portions of another's writing within the context of your own work.
- Failing to acknowledge a source of information.
- Using "unique" phrases without citations.
- Using graphics, charts, diagrams, or illustrations without citations.
- Using a translator (either in-person or on-line) without proper citations.

Plagiarism and/or Cheating will result in disciplinary actions and a 0%, with no option to redo/retake. - no exceptions.

Loss of Credit Due to Absences

Upon reaching 5 unexcused absences or a combination of 12 unexcused and/or excused absences, a student may lose credit in any given class.

Any student may be placed on an Attendance Contract upon accumulating multiple excused and unexcused absences. Any student with excessive absences may:

1. Lose credit in one or more classes.
2. Lose parking privileges.
Communication

Please contact the teacher for any student concerns. It is crucial that teachers, parents, and students maintain open lines of communication in order to ensure the best support for student success. Contact information is provided at the top of the first page of this syllabus.

The Deer Valley Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. For any inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Superintendent's Department, 20402 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027. 623.445.5000.