

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
Criminal Justice Program
Revision Date: 08-19-24

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: CRIM2265
Course Title: Criminal Investigation I
Prerequisite(s): CRIM1010

Catalog Description: Introduces criminal investigation procedures. Reviews the historical development and investigative processes related to law enforcement functions. Topics include, but are not limited to the proper collection, organization, and preservation of evidence using basic investigative tools; examining the primary sources of information, analyzing the importance of writing skills; and reviewing the constitutional (legal) limitations of the investigation.

Credit Hours: 3.0
Class Hours: 45
Lab Hours: 0
Total Contact Hours: 45

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

- A. To explain investigative techniques and procedures in criminal justice.
- B. To explain the roles and functions of uniformed and plainclothes officers in the investigation of criminal offenses.
- C. To gain experience with common legal framework involved in the investigation of criminal offenses.
- D. To gain experience with terminology used by professionals in the field of criminal investigation.
- E. To explain the competing values, theories and concepts involved with Criminal Procedure and to enable the student to apply them to situations involving conflicts between the Government and the individual.
- F. To enhance critical thinking, research and writing skills in criminal investigation issues.
- G. To explain contemporary research in the area of criminal investigation.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*
 - 1. Define criminal investigation as a concept
 - 2. Explain the theoretical underpinnings of criminal investigation
 - 3. Know the history of criminal investigation
 - 4. Document crime scene procedures
 - 5. Interpret, recognize and apply important Supreme Court decisions involving the 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 14th amendments to the US Constitution.
 - 6. Describe current investigative problems and issues.
 - 7. Know the steps of the criminal investigative process
- B. General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs):
 - 1. GELO 1: Speech Communication
Outcome 4: Competently communicate messages – both verbally and nonverbally – to a variety of audience types and in a variety of situations.
 - 2. GELO 2: Written Communication
Outcome 5: Read and write in mechanically-sound, college-level English.
 - 3. GELO 3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
Outcome 1: Collect, identify, interpret and analyze data.

4. GELO 6: Career and Life Skills
Outcome 7: Demonstrate choices that reflect personal responsibility in one's academic, civic, social, and vocational/professional life.

IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)

- A. Introduction
 1. Criminal Investigation: An Overview
 2. Documenting the Crimes Scene: Note Taking, Photographing and Sketching
 3. Writing Effective Reports
 4. Searches
 5. Forensics/Physical Evidence
 6. Obtaining Information and Intelligence
 7. Identifying and Arresting Suspects
 8. Interviewing & Interrogation
 9. Preliminary Investigation
 10. Follow-Up Investigation
 11. Processing Crime Scenes

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s): Hess, Karen M., Orhmann, Christine H., Cho, Henry L., Cho, Jennifer M., *Criminal Investigation*, Current Edition, Cengage.
- B. Other Resources: Varies by instructor

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following: Lecture, Electronic Presentation, Demonstrations, Video/Audio Presentations, Case Studies, Field Trips, Website(s), Course books, Articles, Collaborative Discussion, Group Projects, Other resources

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following: Practical Application, Homework Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Papers & Presentations, Discussion, Other Projects
- B. SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY:

A+	95-100	C+	75-79
A	90-94	C	70-74
B+	85-89	D+	65-69
B	80-84	D	60-64
		F	Below 60

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- A. See Instructor's course outline.