

FS-11 Sec03  
Survey of Forensic Science  
Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Mark Barash  
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Email: mark.barash@sjsu.edu or via Canvas (preferred method of contact)  
Office Hours: Tue and Thr 3pm-6pm; (no need to book, just drop-in)  
Class Days/Time: This course is delivered in a hybrid mode: both in-person and online. The in-person lecture is scheduled on Wednesday 3:00-4:15pm. The online activities will be offered asynchronously (no dedicated time during the week).  
Canvas Course Website: <https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1486416> Login using your Tower ID Card and 3 D V V Z R U G : & R X U V H V : ) 6

FS Library Liaison: Nyle Monday: Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu

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Physical, chemical, biological, and forensic toxicology and forensic anthropology of forensic evidence

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course is delivered both in-person and online via Canvas. You will need a computer with reliable internet access. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable internet access. If students are unable to have reliable WiFi, they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible to determine an alternative. [Please See Anywhere](#) website for current WiFi options on campus. Success in the course requires active participation by logging in daily for dates, completing assignments, and







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**Course Requirements and Assignments**

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- 4. Final digital media presentation (20%): group task. Addressing CLOs 1-4. Overall assessment of this project will be performed jointly by students (20% of the total mark) and course coordinator (80% of the total mark), accounting total to 25% of the final course grade.**
- 4.1.** This task would require a coordinated work of 2 to 4 students working together. You will be required to choose a relevant topic (e.g. a criminal case that became a benchmark in forensic science or in which a major error/misjustice occurred) and create a digital media artefact (e.g. video, podcast, animation or blended media) about this topic. The length of the presentation should be between 3 to 5 minutes. This file should be uploaded into one of the free online platforms, such as Youtube or Vimeo and a link to the file must be submitted via Canvas prior to its presentation in the class.
- 4.2. Digital media training will be provided to you with a lecture on digital media principles covering layout design, colour theory, fonts, use of images and basic video techniques. Additional online modules will be available to provide assistance with digital media.
- 4.3. The digital media project will benefit you in various ways such as learning the subject content and learning digital media principles to communicate effectively, as well as encouraging creativity. The digital media project is an authentic task that resembles real life scenarios, such as communicating the scientific findings to the jury or a police investigator. it
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## **FS-11 Sec 03 Survey of Forensic Science Fall 2022**

- Disciplinary knowledge (35%)
  - Accuracy and completeness of information
  - Comprehensive research using available resources (textbooks, peer-reviewed papers)
- Professional skills (35%)
  - Understanding and explanation of underlying scientific principles of the topic
- Communication skills (15%)
  - Presentation of information (proper usage of professional language, lack of grammatical mistakes, well-structured and easy-to-comprehend presentation)
  - Use of digital media principles such as layout design, fonts, color, graphics and video principles to enhance communication of the topic
- Enquiry and innovation (15%)
  - Creativity (how presentation approach enhances topic)
  - Presentation uses efficient ways to engage the audience

**Overall assessment of this task will be performed jointly by students (20% of the total mark) and course coordinator (80% of the total mark), accounting together for 25% of the final course grade.**

A detailed grading rubric will be provided in Canvas for each of the assessment tasks.

All written assignments will be submitted via Canvas, and must be in Microsoft Word (\*.doc or \*.docx). If you do not currently own Microsoft Word, the software (both PC and Mac) is available for free to students: <http://www.sjsu.edu/it/services/collaboration/software/instructions.php>

### **Extra Credit Opportunities**

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and may be used to augment your final grade up to 5%. These opportunities will also be announced on the Canvas course site and required documentation will need to be uploaded and/or submitted online.

Examples include the following:

1. Complete a short professional development course in forensic science (in any forensic discipline) offered by the National Institute of Justice marked “extra credit” in the Forensic Science module and submit your certificate of completion by the deadline (check Canvas). Successful completion of this assessment task will add 1% to the final grade.
2. Students can write a research paper about their future career that is of interest to the student or about a forensic science controversy. The paper should be either in CSE or APA format and contain an introduction, a body of research, and a conclusion. The length of a paper should be between 2 and 3 standard pages in 1.5 font and contain in-text citations from at least three sources (t)-2.6 (ch)2ies (t)-ef1.2 ( car)-2 ee soeb.6 (e )10.9 .001(l)8.3 (ie(sy 0 T











