

# San José State University

CLO3 Analyze and critically evaluate forensic error, and ethical issues in forensic science.

CLO4 Explain and describe the Scientific Method; the Locard Exchange Principle; safe lab practices and proper evidence handling techniques; class and individual characteristics of evidence; identification, individualization and comparison techniques; and probative value and probability, and other important terms. Required Texts/Readings

Textbook(Required)

Bell, S. (2019). Forensic Science: An Introduction to Scientific and Investigative Techniques, 5/E. CRC Press/Taylor & Francis. ISBN: 978148126

Available for FREE via SJSU library:

[https://csu-sjsu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01CAL\\$SJO/tu4ck5/alma991013779419502919](https://csu-sjsu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01CAL$SJO/tu4ck5/alma991013779419502919)

May also be purchased from the bookstore direct from Elsevier, Amazon.com, or other websites.

Other Readings

Journal articles, tutorials, and links to other required readings will be posted on Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to check the website for new postings.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Required: Composition notebook, and access to a printer/scanner.

Optional: Your own lab coat and safety glasses

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Exams & Quizzes (40%) There will be two midterms and periodic quizzes on terminology, readings, lecture, and labs, and one final exam. Format will include multiple choice, fill-in, short essay, and diagrams. (CLO4)
2. Practical Exercises (40%) These labs may include observation, Locard Principle, trace evidence, Physical Fit, biometrics, Questioned Documents, Pattern Evidence, ethics, and others. (CLO1)
3. DNA/Mass Disaster Paper (10%) Students will determine familial relationships between and among disarticulated body parts by correctly interpreting DNA profiles and write their findings in a 4-page scientific report. (CLO2)
4. Discussion Board (5%) Students will respond substantively to discussion prompts and to classmates on various forensic science related topics. (CLO4)
5. Chapter Review Questions (5%) Students will complete the chapter review questions at the back of each assigned chapter. (CLO1)

Grading Information

Grading Scale for All Assignments

A+	97-100	B+M1-1 (pr)-1 -
A	94-96.9	M1--
A-	90-93.9	

**Note:** A final grade of C or better is required for all Justice Studies and Forensic Science major and minor coursework.

Extra credit

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and will be used to augment the final grade up to 3%. Opportunities include:

- 1.

## Tips for Online Learning

# FS 162 Forensic Science Applications Spring 2022 Course Schedule

Schedule subject to change with fair notice via canvas

Week	Date	Topics and Activities	Readings
1-3	1/27-2/10	Module I: Introduction to Forensic Science Topics: Brief history of forensic science, forensic laboratory structure, investigative personnel roles & responsibilities, The scientific method, characteristics of science/scientists, characteristics of evidence: class, individual, identification; types of evidence, types of analysis, databases, chain of custody, probative value of forensic evidence, probability Labs: Observation Quizzes/Tests Terminology Quiz	Chapter 2

Week	Date	Topics and Activities	Readings
12	4/12	Complete NAS quiz prior to class NAS Report Reading Review Group discussion Lecture: Problems in Forensic Science	Start Ethics Lab
	4/14	Lecture: Ethics Lab: Ethics	
13	4/19	Module V: Other Forensic Disciplines Lecture: Questioned Documents	Chapters 18, 20, and 21
	4/21	Lab: QD	
14	4/26	Lab: QD	
	4/28	Lecture: Tool Marks and wounds, Pattern Evidence	Chapters 14 - 16
15	5/3	Lab: Stab Lab	
	5/5	Lab: Stab Lab	

16 5/10-