
COURSE PREFIX/NUMBER:	SCI 150
COURSE TITLE:	Forensic Science I
LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK:	3.0
LABORATORY HOURS PER WEEK:	3.0
CREDIT HOURS PER SEMESTER:	4.0

[Distance Learning Attendance/VA Statement](#)
[Textbook Information](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of how criminal activity generates physical evidence; and the identification, collection, and preservation of physical evidence.

COURSE COMPETENCIES/PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Module 1: Introduction and Orientation to Crime Scenes

- Explain the role of science in the investigation of crimes
- Demonstrate an understanding of the techniques required to properly collect evidence at a crime scene.

Module 2: Analysis of Physical Evidence

- Describe the various types of physical evidence and how to properly collect and preserve them.
- Describe techniques used to analyze glass and soil.
- Demonstrate the proper use of the microscope.
- Demonstrate proper methods to collect fingerprints.
- Distinguish between impressions made by various firearms, tools, and other objects.

Module 3: Analysis of Chemical Evidence

- Describe methods used for organic and inorganic chemical evidence collection, preservation, and analysis.
- Demonstrate the proper collection, analysis, and preservation of arson evidence.

Module 4: Analysis of Biological Evidence

- Describe the various types of biological evidence.
- Describe the various forms of evidence provided by blood.
- Explain the significance of DNA to forensics. Provide specific examples.

Module 5: Forensic Toxicology and Drugs

- Describe the various types of drugs.
- Discuss the current drug control laws.

Module 6: Forms of Media Evidence: Document, Voice, and Cyber Evidence

- Describe the significance of the various forms of media evidence.
- Demonstrate forensics applications from the Internet.

Module 7: Solving “Crime”

- Solve one or more staged crimes, using proper crime scene investigation techniques.
- Find, recover, identify and compare trace evidence.
- Assess the importance of and weight to assign each piece of evidence.
- Formulate a possible scenario for each crime.
- Communicate the results of each investigation in a written report.

MINIMAL STANDARDS

Minimal standards of performance for receiving 4 hours of semester credit from York Technical College are indicated by achieving a 60 percent accuracy level on all evaluation instruments used in the course performance evaluation strategy. Students must achieve 70% accuracy for this course to transfer to the Environmental Technology or Analytical Chemistry program.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy

Students are responsible for attending meetings in the course until they have completed all course requirements. Students are responsible for all material covered and for all assignments made in all classes. Students who are absent from a course more than 10% of the total contact hours assigned may be withdrawn in accordance with the attendance policy of York Technical College. See attached Instructor's Individual Policy for more information.

Withdrawal From The Course

A student may withdraw from a course after the drop/add period by notifying the instructor or division office of intent to withdraw. If the withdrawal is initiated by midterm, the student will receive a grade of "W". Withdrawals after midterm may result in either a grade of "W" or "WF" depending upon the student's academic performance and attendance in the course at the time of the withdrawal.

Student Conduct

Students are expected to conform to all standards of conduct as specified in the York Technical College Handbook and Catalog. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism will be given a grade of zero and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

EVALUATION STRATEGIES/GRADING

Grades will be determined as described below:

Modules 1-6 Tests	40% of course grade
Module 7 Paper	10% of course grade
Laboratory Exercises	25% of course grade
Final Exam	25% of the course grade
Total	100%

The grading scale for 3 hours of semester credit is as follows:

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F Below 60

A statement of your instructor's additional requirements and/or policy will be provided.

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: NONE

PREREQUISITES: NONE

CO-REQUISITES: NONE

Disabilities Statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Special Resources Offices (SR) at 803-327-8007 in the 300 area of Student Services. The SRO coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Effective: SP2005