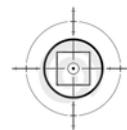




# Forensic Science - Course Syllabus

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## Parent/Student Resources:

If you want INSTANT ACCESS TO THE LATEST GRADES & ATTENDANCE, login to Synergy at <http://vue.district6.org/>. Forensic Science grades are updated frequently and are always current by 9 AM on Monday. Synergy also has linked assignment resources that can be used to MAKEUP MISSING WORK as well as upcoming assignments, due dates, and much more.

## Course Overview:

Forensic Science is the use of science to prove the guilt or innocence. Students will know and be able to evaluate certain types of evidence in court proceedings, explain the steps for thoroughly recording a crime scene, and describe the proper procedures for conducting a systematic search of a crime scene for physical evidence. Students will study the work of various forensic pioneers and the development of technologies relevant to forensics. Students will study how these technologies are used in crime-scene investigations and have influenced the outcome of specific high-interest court cases. Students will also study specific details of physical and biological evidence such as fingerprints, blood, dentition, bones, DNA, ballistics, time of death, and trace evidence such as hairs and fibers.

## Overarching Questions:

- ✦ What is the history of forensic science?
- ✦ What are the different types of physical evidence?
- ✦ How do you examine a crime scene and write a crime scene report?
- ✦ What are some key tools and technologies of the crime lab?
- ✦ What is the role of critical thinking skills in forensic science?
- ✦ What are some legal considerations of crime scene investigation?

## Major Goals:

- ✦ Learn, practice, and refine observation and critical thinking skills
- ✦ Understand and use techniques for collecting of different types of physical and biological evidence
- ✦ Develop understandings of crime scene investigation techniques and processes
- ✦ Complete projects relating to key forensic technologies, famous criminal cases, and original crime scene design

**Grading:** Grades will be regularly posted online using Synergy to allow students and parents to monitor progress towards mastery of learning targets.

50% of Grade (weighted) - "Mastery of Learning Targets" as demonstrated by:	50% of Grade (weighted)- "Application of Learning" as demonstrated by:
Unit Tests	Labs / Performance Tasks
Quizzes or Check-ins	Targeted Assignments*: Graded assignments that help demonstrate student's current level of understanding and progress towards mastery of learning targets
Essential Assignments (must earn a "C" or better to pass class)	Other Activities that show student's ability to apply their new knowledge

A = 90% and above      B = 80%- 89%      C= 70%-79%      D= 60%-69%      F= 59% and below

**LEARNING BEHAVIORS:** In addition to academic grading, your student will be evaluated on four behavioral categories:

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Teamwork            | 3) Critical Thinking |
| 2) Personal Management | 4) Communication     |

Students will be assessed on whether they “meet” or “do not meet” these criteria. No letter grade is associated with assessment of the learning behaviors.

## **Class Procedures:**

### **Interactive Notebooks (INBs):**

All students are required to keep a science interactive notebook and have it available for use in class daily. Notebook entries will be made 1-2 times per week and graded near the end of each unit. Composition books are preferred; but some students like to keep their INB entries in a three-ring binder, a pocket folder, or some other format. Notebook entries focus on the major learning targets in Physical Science. They give students the opportunity to develop an understanding of these topics and then apply these ideas to the real world.

### **Electronic Devices:**

Electronic devices such as smart phones and ipods can be essential learning tools. They can also be a serious distraction from learning. Electronic devices are allowed in class WITH PERMISSION ONLY on CERTAIN DAYS AND TIMES. Please refrain from using your device for texting, playing games, and other non-class related activities.

### **Absences:**

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and complete all work missed regardless of the reason for the absence. Students should get all missing assignments on the day that they return. These assignments should be completed, labeled "**Absent Work**", and turned in promptly. If you miss a lab, please make arrangements with the teacher to come in to make-up the lab in a timely manner. Many labs have consumable supplies that are only available for a short period of time. Tests and quizzes are always announced well in advance; so students are expected to take them on the day that they return as well.

### **Tardies:**

Students are expected to be in class on time, ready to learn. Plan your schedule to use passing time between classes efficiently. Students should report to class and then get permission to go to the bathroom if it might make them late. Students with repeated unexcused tardies will receive consequences as outlined in the CAHPS Tardy Policy.

### **Late Work:**

All work is expected to be submitted in class on the day that it is due. Work turned within one week late will still receive full credit, but be marked late. Each student is allowed three of these lates per quarter. Points will be deducted for work turned in more than one week late, but some credit is better than no credit.

### **Copying:**

Copying work for this and any other class is completely unacceptable. If you care about yourself and your friends, do not copy. Learn the material, study together, discuss information, and teach others, but do not copy assignments or cheat on tests. Students who come to class, stay caught up, complete their assignments, and don't copy answers during assignments, usually pass the course and are prepared to act in the case of a medical emergency.

## **Class Rules:**

**1) Be Safe** – Listen carefully and follow all safety instructions, especially during lab activities. No pushing or roughhousing in the classroom. Report any potentially dangerous situations to the teacher immediately.

- 2) **Be Respectful** – Stay quiet and attentive during teacher-led activities such as opening announcements and assignment instructions. Set a good example by staying in your seat, talking only when appropriate, and focusing on the lesson. Take care of classroom property and equipment.
- 3) **Be Responsible** – Complete all assignments to the best of your abilities. Make up all missed work. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and complete all work missed regardless of the reason for the absence.
- 4) **Communicate Positively** – Be supportive and understanding of others. Use words and compromise to resolve conflicts. Be a good team player.
- 5) **Have Integrity** – Do the right thing, even when no one else is watching. Take care of yourself and others. Do everything that you do with respect and care.

**Consequences:**

If you choose not to adhere to the rules, you will face these consequences. Severe violations will bypass steps 1 & 2.

**Step 1:** =====> Warning

**Step 3:** =====> Phone Call to Parents

**Step 2:** =====> Lunch Detention

**Step 4:** =====> Referral to the Principal

## FORENSIC SCIENCE SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

**PARENTS:**

If you need to contact your student for an emergency or other reason during the school day, PLEASE call the school phone number (541) 494-6312 and your student will be contacted. Please do **not** call or text your student’s cell number during class because it causes disruption to your and other student’s learning.

**Note:** Please read this syllabus carefully and sign it, have your parents/guardians read it and sign it, and return this portion to me. Check Synergy regularly to check student grades and progress towards mastery of the learning targets.

I have read and understand the course expectations and policies:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Print Student Name (Please print neatly)*

*Student Signature*

You, your daughter/son, and I are partners in your students’ education. You can help him/her succeed by checking with them as often as possible about their progress and looking with them at their assignment completion and/or needs. Please also plan on attending parent/student teacher conferences. Contact me by email any time with questions or concerns.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Parent/Guardian Signature*

*Parent/Guardian Email – please print neatly*

Best Phone Number(s) to reach you

First preference: \_\_\_\_\_

Second option (if available): \_\_\_\_\_