

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ADJ 186 – FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Introduces student to the constructs of criminal psychology. Introduces the student to the exploration of criminal investigative analysis, VI-CAP, mental disorders and the etiology of certain criminal behaviors. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a greater understand of psychological profiling and understanding criminal behavior. The course will explore the etiology of specific criminal behaviors and mental disorders.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- a) critically analyze violent and non-violent criminal behavior.
- b) assess patterns crime and profiling of techniques.
- c) explore the relationship of mental illness and crime.
- d) discuss the purpose of psychological assessments of criminal offenders.

Major Topics to Be Covered

- a) VI-CAP psychological assessment
- b) mental illness
- c) theories of behavior
- d) various legal requirements for culpability
- e) crime typologies
- f) profiling techniques

Extra Topics (Optional)

The course may include related topics at the discretion of the instructor.