

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ADJ 237 - ADVANCED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION (3 CR.)

Course Description

Introduces specialized tools and scientific aids used in criminal investigation. Applies investigative techniques to specific situations and preparation of trial evidence. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an introduction to the contributions, methods, and equipment of the forensic sciences in the investigation of criminal offenses. The course is a continuation of ADJ 236 - Principles of Criminal Investigation and prepares the student for testimony based on crime scene evidence.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: None.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- a) understand the duties, responsibilities, and methods of the investigative officer.
- b) understand the duties, responsibilities, and methods of the forensic science team.
- c) learn the methods of processing physical evidence in the laboratory.

Major Topics to Be Included

- a) examine laboratory evidence and responsibilities
- b) understand the role of individuals at the crime scene
- c) examine a mock crime scene
- d) review investigative techniques including the use of fingerprints, handwriting analysis, DNA, tool marks, ballistics, and additional forms of physical evidence

EXTRA TOPICS (optional)

Related topics at the discretion of the instructor