

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ADJ 275 - FORENSIC PATHOLOGY (3 CR)**

Course Description

Introduces the pathology and physiology of the human body with emphasis on scientific name and technique used in medico-legal investigations of death. Students will study types of death, the mechanisms of death and death reflex, and determining cause of death by postmortem examination. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General course purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an overview of forensic death investigations.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

- Describe the component of medico-legal investigations and implications of death investigations with respect to the roles and responsibilities of the different forensic disciplines
- Demonstrate knowledge of forensic medico-legal terminology and the scientific techniques used in death investigations
- Describe the characteristics that differentiate the manner, cause, and mechanisms of death

Major topics to be included

- Medico-legal death investigation
- Post-mortem changes
- Natural causes of death
- Blunt force trauma
- Cranio-cerebral injuries
- Sharp force injuries
- Asphyxial deaths
- Transportation related deaths
- Environmental causes of death such as: fire, carbon monoxide, drowning, hypothermia, etc.
- Child death

Extra Topics – May Be Included

Related topics at the discretion of the instructor.