LAWE 367 : Exploring Forensic Science

A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal 03 - Natural Science

This course will provide the student with a general overview and a better understanding of the wide range of disciplines found within the forensic sciences. Fundamental topics such as forensic anthropology, forensic entomology, forensic pathology, and forensic accounting will be discussed. In addition 'traditionally' recognized topics in forensic science such as DNA, Trace Evidence, Impression Evidence, Drugs, and Questioned Documents will be covered. The course instructor will utilize multi-media in a lecture format, utilizing case-studies, video supplements and expert guest speakers.

B. Course Effective Dates: 12/18/2018 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Analyze and compare forensic pathology and forensic accounting.
2. Apply forensic science theories and tools to real life cases.
3. Evaluate DNA, Trace evidence, impression evidence, and question document role regarding forensic science.
4. Examine, differentiate and explain the influences of anthropology, entomology, and ontology on forensic science.
5. Explain basic principles of evidence and physical evidence exchange theory.
6. Demonstrate the processes and requirements of documentation of evidence and the crime scene.
7. Understand and demonstrate the appropriate collection and packaging of forensic evidence.
8. Identify and evaluate emerging issues and trends in the field of forensic science.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal 03 - Natural Science

1. Formulate and test hypotheses by performing laboratory, simulation, or field experiments in at least two of the natural science disciplines. One of these experimental components should develop, in greater depth, students' laboratory experience in the collection of data, its statistical and graphical analysis, and an appreciation of its sources of error and uncertainty.
2. Demonstrate understanding of scientific theories.
3. Communicate their experimental findings, analyses, and interpretations both orally and in writing.

G. Special Information

None