



# ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

**DIVISION: Natural Sciences and Business**

**COURSE: CRJ 2010 Criminal Investigation**

Date: Fall 2022

Credit Hours: 3

*Complete all that apply or mark "None" where appropriate:*

Prerequisite(s): CRJ 1000

Enrollment by assessment or other measure?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe:

Corequisite(s): None

Pre- or Corequisite(s): None

Consent of Instructor:  Yes  No

Delivery Method:  **Lecture**      **3 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Seminar**      **0 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Lab**      **0 Contact Hours** (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Clinical**      **0 Contact Hours** (3 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Online**  
 **Blended**  
 **Virtual Class Meeting (VCM)**

Offered:  **Fall**     **Spring**     **Summer**

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION and IAI NUMBER (if applicable):**

This course will examine the fundamentals of investigation; crime scene applications, collection of evidence, presentation of evidence, investigative techniques and procedures; and follow-up case studies.

## ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS AND COURSE NOTES:

None

## COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

See outcomes and competencies below.

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Assigned readings  
Lecture and discussion  
Discussion Board (online only)  
Video instruction  
Case applications  
Use of current events  
Audio-visual presentations

## EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

Assigned readings.  
Regular attendance  
Participation in discussion  
Participation in Discussion Board (online only)  
Paper assignment  
Written exams.

A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D= 60-69 F= 0-59

## INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

### Textbooks

Lyman, M.D. (2022). *Criminal Investigation*. Pearson. Current Edition.

### Resources

Academic scholarly readings outside of the text;  
Audio visual presentations from professional sources  
Instructor videos

## LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

### Institutional Learning Outcomes

- 1) Communication – to communicate effectively;
- 2) Inquiry – to apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgement or conclusion;
- 3) Social Consciousness – to understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally;
- 4) Responsibility – to recognize how personal choices affect self and society.

## **Course Outcomes and Competencies**

### **Outcome #1: Students will gain an overview of all aspects of criminal investigation.**

Competency 1.1: Students will define and illustrate the purposes of investigating.

Competency 1.2: Students will outline the qualities and skills necessary to be an effective investigator.

Competency 1.3: Students will detail the major types of investigations: criminal and noncriminal; reactive and proactive; and overt and covert.

Competency 1.4: Students will outline the importance of ethics in investigating.

### **Outcome #2: Students will gain an understanding of the types of investigations.**

Competency 2.1: Students will outline the current policies of law enforcement relative to retroactive investigations of crime.

Competency 2.2: Students discuss the methods law enforcement use in the United States to investigate various types of crime.

Competency 2.3: Students will gain an appreciation for the methods used by private investigators when conducting their investigations.

### **Outcome #3: Students will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of basic crime scene investigating.**

Competency 3.1: Students will outline the importance of personnel at the crime scene: first responding officer and the investigator.

Competency 3.2: Students will explain crime scene management.

Competency 3.3: Students will outline steps involved in the processing of a crime scene, including photographing, searching, collecting physical evidence, recording, and reconstructing the crime.

Competency 3.4: Students will discuss the importance of physical evidence that may be at a crime scene and the methods used by crime scene personnel to process that evidence.

Competency 3.5: Students will highlight the details of an important crime scene investigation.

### **Outcome #4: Students will become familiar with the techniques of interrogation and interviewing which are constitutionally acceptable.**

Competency 4.1: Students will gain an appreciation of the importance of interviews in the investigative process and methods used by successful interviewers to obtain information.

Competency 4.2: Students will explain innovations in interviewing techniques and special techniques in interviewing special populations: children or victims of sexual assault.

Competency 4.3: Students will demonstrate interview methods used by successful investigators.

Competency 4.4: Students will demonstrate techniques used by interviewers and interrogators in recording interviews and interrogations for later use and for presentation in court.

Competency 4.5: Students will outline the guidelines set forth by the United States Supreme Court for conducting interrogations.

**Outcome #5: Students will gain an overview of the sources of information in investigating.**

Competency 5.1: Students will outline the numerous people that can be used as sources of information for the investigator.

Competency 5.2: Students will outline the numerous records at the government and private level that an investigator may obtain to conduct his or her investigation.

Competency 5.3: Students will discuss the latest findings in certain specialized sources of information, including psychics, psycholinguistics, and criminal personality profiling.

Competency 5.4: Students will be able to identify the constitutional and legal limitations regarding sources of information.

**Outcome #6: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of basic surveillance techniques.**

Competency 6.1: Students will describe the concept of surveillance and its importance in investigating.

Competency 6.2: Students will explain the preparations necessary to conduct an effective surveillance.

Competency 6.3: Students will outline effective techniques used in stationary and moving surveillance.

Competency 6.4: Students will discuss the importance of maintaining a written record of the surveillance.

Competency 6.5: Students will explain the various electronic equipment that may be useful in surveillance.

**Outcome #7: Students will be able to explain the role of undercover investigators.**

Competency 7.1: Students will discuss how undercover investigations fit into the general role of public and private investigating.

Competency 7.2: Students will outline the purposes and types of undercover investigations.

Competency 7.3: Students will discuss the successful personal qualities and successful tactics of the undercover investigator.

Competency 7.4: Students will discuss the importance of preparation in the undercover investigation.

Competency 7.5: Students will identify how participation in illegal activities works to the detriment of the successful undercover investigations.

**Outcome #8: Students will be able to explain the importance of report writing in investigations.**

Competency 8.1: Students will discuss the importance of case management systems in investigations.

Competency 8.2: Students will demonstrate proper note taking procedures in investigating.

Competency 8.3: Students will demonstrate the ability to maintain a well-documented case folder.

Competency 8.4: Students will demonstrate the basics of report writing.

**Outcome #9: Students will gain an understanding of the use of technology and computers in investigating.**

Competency 9.1: Students will discuss the latest technological advances in investigating.

Competency 9.2: Students will discuss how the computer is revolutionizing investigations.

Competency 9.3 Students will outline the latest fingerprinting, communications, and photographic techniques used in investigations.

Competency 9.4: Students will outline how technology has simplified and improved the surveillance function in investigation.