



TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

Technical College of the Lowcountry
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Public & Human Services
Building 16, Room 132
843- 525-8349

CRJ 200 Latent Print Development and Collection Techniques

Course Description

CRJ 200 Latent Print Development and Collection Techniques 3 Cr.

This course is an introduction to the value of latent fingerprint evidence, the various conditions that affect the development and recovery of latent fingerprints, and the optimum methods of processing items of evidence found in crime scenes. 3 Cr (3 lect/pres, 0 lab, 0 other)

Course Focus

The student will be introduced to collecting, developing, and processing fingerprints from crime scenes.

Text and References

Fingerprint Identification William Loe, 1st Edition (2004), LawTech Custom Publishing, Inc.

Course Goals

The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. Understand what the expectations of conduct are for fingerprint examiners
2. Understand the importance of fingerprint examiners remaining impartial in their investigations and analysis
3. Understand the importance of fingerprint examiners maintaining a high level of competence
4. Understand the concept of uniqueness
5. Be able to differentiate between class and individual characteristics
6. Understand how fingerprint evidence is used in the justice system
7. Recognized the importance of following the rules of evidence
8. Become familiar with the scientists and medical researchers whose work has established that all areas of friction shin are unique and permanent
9. To develop an appreciation of this powerful crime fighting tool

10. Provide an understanding of the history of the acceptance of fingerprint evidence of fingerprint evidence in the courts of the world.
11. Identify the factors now used in Federal Court to determine if evidence is reliable and scientifically valid
12. Understand how fingerprint evidence satisfies the Daubert factors
13. Provide an understanding of how friction skin is formed
14. Provide a thorough understanding of the concept that all areas of friction skin are permanent and unique
15. Define the anatomical designations of the hand
16. Be able to recognized the major areas of the hand and their anatomical designations
17. To recognize the basic three pattern types and their sub-divisions
18. To understand the various terms used in fingerprint classification
19. Understand the uses of recorded finger and palm prints
20. Appreciate the ramifications of poorly recorded prints
21. Learn how to correctly record a fingerprint exemplar card
22. To classify a fingerprint card using the Henry System of fingerprint classification
23. To classify a fingerprint card using the NCIC classification
24. To provide an understanding of the role of AFIS in the criminal justice system
25. To provide an overview of how the AFIS works and its ability to solve crime
26. Provide an understanding of the three types of evidence prints found at crime scenes
27. Provide an understanding of the limitations of fingerprint evidence
28. Define the composition of latent prints
29. Provide an overview of how fingerprint investigations are conducted
30. Become familiar with the components of the fingerprint kit
31. Discuss the concept of how and why fingerprints develop on the surface of objects
32. Learn the mechanics of latent print development with powders and brushes
33. Discuss the importance of proper documentation of evidence prints to ensure the integrity of the evidence
34. Identify the various types of chemicals that can be used to develop latent prints
35. Provide an understanding of the different chemical reactions that result in the development of latent prints
36. Discuss the role of different chemical processes on porous and non-porous surfaces
37. Explore the methodology used by fingerprint examiners to conduct their examinations
38. Provide an understanding of how clarity will affect the type and amount of ridge detail needed to individualize areas of friction skin
39. Provide a thorough understanding of the mechanics of the comparison process
40. Discuss the acceptable conclusions of a fingerprint comparison
41. Provide a discussion of identification philosophy
42. Discuss identification standards
43. Define the difference between distortion and dissimilarity
44. Explain why friction skin identification is an objective science
45. Define the legal definition of an expert witness
46. Explain the process of qualifying as an expert witness

47. Discuss the role of the expert and the privileges afforded an expert while testifying
48. Review the typical questions and answers that a finger print examiner would encounter on the witness stand.
49. Provide an understanding of how jurors perceive the presentation of fingerprint evidence
50. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various types of court exhibits

Student Contributions

Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class. There will be a final exam, online assignments, and 2 practicums.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Technical College of the Lowcountry is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all qualified applicants for admissions or employment without regard to race, gender, national origin, age, religion, marital status, veteran status, disability, or political affiliation or belief.

ADA STATEMENT

The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student's responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the *TCL Student Handbook*, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.

ATTENDANCE

The College's statement of policy indicates that students must attend **ninety percent of total class hours** or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

- Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Students taking an online/internet class must sign in **and** communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.

- In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student's responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.
- When a student exceeds the allowed absences, the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdraw the student with a grade of "W", "WP", or "WF" depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student's progress up to the last date of attendance *or*
 - under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.
- Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.
- A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
- A copy of TCL's **STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL)** is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

ONLINE ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE

For all online courses, students must complete an assignment designated by the instructor during the first week of classes. The instructor will drop the student from the course if the initial assignment is not completed.

Instructors will withdraw students from the class when 90% attendance is not maintained. Attendance in an online course is defined by regular course access and by timely completion of assignments as required by the instructor. Each student will be expected to access the web class at least once a week and complete 90% of assignments on time. Additional access is encouraged and may be necessary for successful completion of classes.

Failure to log in and complete assignments will result in the student being withdrawn from the course. The instructor will assign a grade of "W," "WP," or "WF" based upon the student's academic standing as the last date of attendance, which is the last login. Students are responsible for any financial matters associated with an administrative withdrawal. If a student fails to email the instructor (using the my.tcl.edu email account) requesting to be dropped from the course and has not submitted the initial assignment required during the first week of class, the instructor will assign a "Never Attended" code in the student information system (web-advisor) no later than ten calendar days after the first day of the class. Students who are dropped as a result of never attending the course are still responsible for all fees associated with the course.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER

In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVA 101.1, WSOK 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTOG TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. <http://www.tcl.edu/current-students/text-alert>

EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE ALERT

Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. Participants receive immediate notification of emergency events and weather cancelations via text messaging on their cell phones. Participants can also opt in to receive non-emergency news and announcements. Go to www.tcl.edu. On the homepage, click on “emergency TextAlert at TCL” and fill out the form or go to <http://www.tcl.edu/current-students/text-alert>

Course Evaluation

Your performance objective and exams will be translated to points and the points to grades. There are 100 possible points and grades will be earned as follows:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

Tests and Quizzes

The final examination is a comprehensive examination and consists of multiple-choice, true/false, and fills in the blank type questions. The final is value at 20% of the final grade.

Practicums

Each student is required to locate people associated with TCL and fingerprint them. This practicum is valued at 25% of the final grade.

Each student is required to lift five latent prints and attempt to locate the owner of the print in the local database. This practicum is valued at 25% of the final grade.

Classroom Participation

Each student is responsible for all online assignments. Online assignments are valued at 20% of final grade.

Classroom Participation

Each student is required to complete all classroom assignments. CP is valued at 10% of the final grade.

SAFETY ADDENDUM

Purpose.

The purpose of this safety addendum is to provide each student with safety guidelines during an incident, emergency, or disaster at TCL. In addition, it provides students guidelines for lockdown procedures, evacuation procedures, and active shooter.

Definitions

An incident is any event, potential or actual, that may impact normal operations but has no immediate health or life threatening consideration or serious effect on the overall functional capacity of the College. An event of this nature should be reported to the Office of the Vice President for Administrative Services. Also notify the off-site campus administrator if applicable.

An emergency is any incident, potential or actual, which may endanger life or health or which affects an entire building or buildings, and will disrupt the overall operations of the College. Outside emergency services will probably be required, as well as major efforts from campus support services. Major policy considerations and decisions will usually be required from the college administration during times of crises. An emergency should be reported immediately by directly using **911** if life or health/injury considerations exist and then to the Office of the President or Vice President for Administrative Services as quickly as possible. Also notify the off-site campus administrator if applicable.

A disaster is any event or occurrence that has taken place and has seriously impaired or halted the operations of the College. In some cases, mass personnel casualties and severe property damage may be sustained. A coordinated effort of all campus-wide resources is required to effectively control the situation. Outside emergency services will be essential. In all cases of disaster, an Emergency Control Center will be activated, and the appropriate support and operational plans will be executed. The disaster should be immediately reported, first by calling **911** and then to the Office of the President or Vice President for Administrative Services. Also notify the off-site campus administrator if applicable.

Types of Emergencies

- Hurricane
- Tornado
- Fire
- Biochemical or Radiation Spill
- Explosion/Bomb
- Downed Aircraft (crash which directly impacts campus operations)
- Utility Failures
- Violent or criminal behavior
- Psychological Crisis

Procedures

Active Shooter

Run/hide/fight (<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cirg/active-shooter-and-mass-casualty-incidents/run-hide-fight-video>)

Building Evacuation

1. Building evacuations occur when an alarm sounds and/or upon notification by Security or the Emergency Director.
2. When the building evacuation alarm is activated during an emergency, individuals should exit according to the building evacuation plan and alert others to do the same.
3. Once outside, individuals should proceed to a clear area that is at least 500 feet away from the affected building. Streets, fire lanes, hydrant areas and walkways should be kept clear for emergency vehicles and personnel.
4. Individuals should not return to an evacuated building unless told to do so by Security or the Emergency Director.

5. Individuals should assist persons with disabilities in exiting the building. Elevators are reserved for disabled persons

Campus Evacuation

1. A uniformed Security Guard, the Emergency Director, or an Emergency Resource Team member will announce evacuation of all or part of the campus grounds.
2. All persons (students and staff) are to immediately vacate the campus, or in the case of a partial evacuation relocate to another part of the campus grounds as directed.

Lockdown

1. Clear the halls
2. Report to the nearest classroom/office
3. Assist those needing special assistance
4. Ensure classroom/office doors are closed and locked
5. Turn off lights
6. Stay away from doors and windows (out of the line of sight)
7. BE QUIET and follow instructor's directions
8. Silence cell phones
9. Wait for the "All Clear" before leaving

Course Schedule

Revised: October 8, 2019