



**Forsyth County Schools**  
**Forensic Science Syllabus 2023/2024**

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**Course Description (GaDOE):** In this course students will learn the scientific protocols for analyzing a crime scene, how to use chemical and physical separation methods to isolate and identify materials, how to analyze biological evidence and the criminal use of tools, including impressions from firearms, tool marks, arson, and explosive evidence.

**Standards:** *Course Standards can be found at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Forensic-Science-Georgia-Standards.pdf>*

**Required Assignments:** There will be approximately 10 units of study, each accompanied by 1-2 summative assessments, primarily consisting of various performance-based assessments that require writing, research, and well-executed lab protocol. The number of formative assignments such as quizzes, assignments, learning labs, etc. will be determined along the course of the school year. Students should expect new material each day and assignments that are either content building or content practice in preparation for assessments.

<i>Semester One</i>	<i>Semester Two</i>
<i>1 – Observation, CSI and Lab Techniques</i>	<i>6 – Trace Evidence</i>
<i>2 – Death</i>	<i>7 – Serology</i>
<i>3 – Entomology and Anthropology</i>	<i>8 – Arson, Ballistics, and Toolmarks</i>
<i>4 – Impression Evidence</i>	<i>9 – Forensic Psychology</i>
<i>5 – Document Evidence</i>	<i>10 – Murder at Old Fields</i>

**Required Materials:** Pencils, Pens, Sticky Notes, Highlighter, Markers or Colored Pencils, Binder or an organizational item of your choice (notebook/folder).

**Availability for Extra Help:** I am available by appointment most mornings and afternoons, just communicate with me. IF (Instructional Flex) is a great time to get help as well.

**Makeup Work:** *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student's absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work if there are extenuating circumstances.*

**Grading Calculations:**

Course Average = 50% (1<sup>st</sup> Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2<sup>nd</sup> Sem. Course Work)

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

**Grading Policy:**

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

Failing = Below 70

*Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to, homework, class work, labs, investigations, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/research papers/presentations.*

*Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to, unit tests, final projects, final essays, formal lab reports, final research papers, and final presentations.*

**Learning Resources/Textbook(s):** All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience in this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked. <http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
- **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. <https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances. <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with its privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources, immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Hard copy/Website	Privacy Policy
Explore Learning	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.explorellearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy">https://www.explorellearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy</a>
Newsela	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/">https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/</a>
Pivot Interactives	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.pivotinteractives.com/privacy-policy">https://www.pivotinteractives.com/privacy-policy</a>
Discovery Education	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/">https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/</a>

*\* The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.*

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	NSTA Podcast for the Classroom	<a href="#">Blick on Flicks</a>	<a href="#">Policy</a>
	The Body Farm, A National Geographic Documentary TV-14	Youtube	<a href="#">Policy</a>
	Death by Fire, Frontline PBS	<a href="#">PBS Access</a>	<a href="#">Policy</a>

	Documentary TV-PG		
	BONES TV-14	<a href="#">IMBD Access</a>	<a href="#">Privacy</a>
	Forensic Files (1996–2011)	<a href="#">IMDB access</a>	<a href="#">Privacy</a>
	Buzzfeed Unsolved TV-16+	<a href="#">Prime Video Access</a>	<a href="#">Privacy Notice</a>
	Quizlet	<a href="#">Quizlet Access</a>	<a href="#">Privacy</a>

***\*\* The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student's teacher via email.***

As a part of their participation in PSAT and/or SAT testing, students may be expected to utilize accounts created with the College Board via their official website. These accounts provide students with the ability to register for the PSAT and SAT assessments, as well as other program resources as offered by the College Board. Parents and students should review the College Board privacy policies and collaboratively create and manage this account. For additional information, please contact the PSAT/SAT Coordinator at your student's school, and visit <https://privacy.collegeboard.org/privacy-center/>.

I, \_\_\_\_\_(guardian's name print), have read this course syllabus and approve of its contents. I agree to allow my student to use each of the classroom resources listed in the learning resource section. I will support my student following the classroom expectations outlined in this course syllabus. I agree that I am the person who is legally allowed to consent for my student whose name is listed below. *I understand the requirements my child will have to meet to pass this course. I also understand the BYOT contract and the self-control/responsibility my child will need to use with their personal technology and if my child is inappropriately using their personal technology the teacher can remove it from their possession.*

\_\_\_\_\_I prefer primary contact by e-mail. My e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_I prefer primary contact by phone call. My phone number is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Student:

\_\_\_\_\_(initial) I UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY THE BYOT POLICY AND GUIDELINES. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT ANY VIOLATION IS UNETHICAL AND MAY RESULT IN THE LOSS OF MY NETWORK AND/OR TECHNOLOGY PRIVILEGES AS WELL AS OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

\_\_\_\_\_(initial) I UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS COURSE, WHICH INCLUDE DISSECTIONS AND IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS AND VISUALS PERTAINING TO FORENSIC SCIENCE.

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