

Forsyth County Schools Course Syllabus 2021/2022

COURSE TITLE: Forensic Science	
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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.*

Semester One	Semester Two
1 – Observation, CSI and Lab Techniques	6 – DNA and Blood
2 – Death: Manner, Mechanism, Cause and Time	7 – Impression Evidence
3 – Forensic Anthropology and Entomology	8 – Drug ID and Toxicology
4 – Trace Evidence (Hair/Fiber and Pollen/Soil)	9 – Arson/Explosions and Psychological Profiling/Interrogations
5 – Trace Evidence (Glass/Handwriting/Chromatography/Forgery)	10 – Murder at Old Fields

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.*

Media Guidelines and Graphic Material: *Within the curriculum there poses the opportunity for teachers to incorporate different forms of technology into the classroom. One of these forms of technology is the showing of clips of related movies or related movies in their entirety. These films will be rated G, PG, or PG-13. News programming and other television/internet broadcasts related to the curriculum may also be viewed. Additionally, images from crime scenes will be used as examples throughout the course and may depict potential graphic images including, but not limited to, dead bodies/cadavers, blood, bodily fluids, and murder weapons. If you have any concerns about video viewing or images, please contact the instructor.*

Grading Calculations:

Course Average = 50% (1st Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2nd Sem. Course Work)
1st and 2nd 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/quid/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)	https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy
Newsela	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/

** 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	Blick on Flicks	Policy

	The Body Farm, A National Geographic Documentary TV-14	Youtube	Policy
	Death by Fire, Frontline PBS Documentary TV-PG	PBS Access	Policy
	BONES TV-14	IMBD Access	Privacy
	Forensic Files (1996–2011)	IMDB access	Privacy
	Buzzfeed Unsolved TV-16+	Prime Video Access	Privacy Notice
	Quizlet	Quizlet Access	Privacy

**** 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.**

I, _____, 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 in 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.

Student's Name (Print)

Parent's Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date