 

**Forensic Science**

**Mr. Roy Garcia, II, Forensic Science Teacher**

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Rm 216 - 2nd Blk; Rm 218 - 3rd Blk Conference: 5th Block

REMIND: 2nd Blk - **@6e2g7f** 3rd Blk - **@6age4ab**

Tutoring (Rm 218): Monday

and Wednesday Mornings @ 7:30 AM

(Please, let me know the day before if coming in)

The Pioneer High School **Forensic Science** course is a two semester, 1 hr credit course open to all students who have successfully completed biology and geometry. The course completes the Application tier of the required courses for the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Corrections and Security career track.

Forensics is a field of science dedicated to the methodical gathering and analysis of evidence to establish facts that can be presented in a legal proceeding. Though crime scenes and laboratories are perhaps, most often associated with forensics, there is also computer or network forensics, forensic accounting, forensic engineering and forensic psychiatry, among other specialized fields that are today an integral part of forensics.

Forensic science is the practical application of science to matters of the law. In criminal law, forensics science can help prove the guilt or innocence of the defendant. In civil actions, forensics can help resolve a broad spectrum of legal issues through the identification, analysis and evaluation of physical evidence.

Forensic science draws upon a variety of scientific principles, including biology, physics and chemistry. The field of forensic science covers: Document examination; DNA analysis; Electronic/digital media; Fingerprinting; Autopsy techniques; Forensic engineering; Linguistics; Forensic anthropology; Pathology; Economics; Accounting; Biology; Entomology; Toxicology and much more.

**COURSE CONTENT/TOPIC HEADINGS:**

**1st Semester**

Lesson 1- Introduction and History of Forensic Science –

***TEKS: 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F***

Lesson 2- Crime Scene Processing –

***TEKS: 5A, 5B, 5D, 5G, 5H, 5I, 5E, 5F, 5J***

Lesson 3- Fingerprint Analysis –

***TEKS: 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, 8G***

Lesson 4- Hair and Fiber Analysis –

***TEKS: 7C, 7D, 7B***

Lesson 5- Firearms Analysis –

***TEKS: 14A, 14B, 14C, 14D***

Lesson 6- Impression Analysis –

***TEKS: 7B***

Lesson 7- Glass Fragment Analysis –

***TEKS: 6E, 6F, 6G, 6J, 6I***

**2ND SEMESTER**

Lesson 8: Bloodstain Pattern Analysis –

***TEKS: 9A, 9B, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D***

Lesson 9: DNA Analysis –

***TEKS: 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, 12E***

Lesson 10: Drug Analysis –

***TEKS: 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 13A, 13B***

Lesson 11: Toxicology –

***TEKS: 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D***

Lesson 12: Document Analysis –

***TEKS: 6G, 3A, 3B***

Lesson 13: Forensic Entomology\* -

***TEKS: 16A, 16B, 16C, 16D***

Lesson 14: Forensic Anthropology –

***TEKS: 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 15E, 15F***

**Grading:**

The weight distribution of the following will be used to determine the overall final grades.

Major assignments:**60%** → Tests, Projects, Lab Reports, Presentations, Notebook.

Minor assignments: **20%** → Daily work, Quizzes, Homework, Lab Work, Binder Checks

The semester exams will be worth **20%** of your six weeks grade.

* All work handed in must be neat with clear legible handwriting if it is not legible it will not be graded.
* The student must also put their name, date and block on all work handed in. \*assignments without this will not be graded if it is lacking this.
* Any work requiring problem solving must show all the work or no credit will be given.

\*a minimum of a **50** will be given assuming all answers are correct w/ correct units.

**Late work and Make-up work:**

Students with and EXCUSED ABSENCE from school will have the opportunity to make up missed work at the rate of **one day for one day missed**, with a maximum of **five** days.  Students will receive a **zero** for any major or minor assignments not made up within the allotted time.

Students with an UNEXCUSED ABSENCE **may not make up missed work**; however, if the unexcused absence is determined to be caused by an extenuating circumstance, makeup work may be allowed.  The grade for the makeup work will be no higher than a **70**.

**Re-Testing**

Students will be given the opportunity to re-test on a major grade in the event that they are absent and or have a failing test grade. Absent students will be allowed three days to inform me when they can come in to re-test. According to district policy, making up an exam because of an excused absence will be allowed the full grade to be awarded.

In the event that a student fails an exam, they will have three days to come in for tutoring and set up an appointment to re-test. According to district policy, making up an exam because of a failing grade will automatically lose **30 pts**. So the highest possible grade cannot be over a **70**.

**Classroom Principles:**

Respect – I believe that respect is the most important classroom principle.  I expect all of my students to treat teachers, staff, other students, themselves, and property with respect.

Responsibility – I expect my students to demonstrate a well-developed sense of responsibility.  As seniors/juniors in high school, students should be capable of demonstrating responsibility in their actions and words.

Honesty – I expect all classroom communication to be honest and open.  Students should promote honesty through actions and words that display integrity. Cheating on exams or quizzes will result in a zero, and your parents/guardian will be notified. When writing reports or papers, plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a zero.

**General Rules**

* Students will not use any offensive or derogatory language in the classroom.
* Students will treat school property, teacher property, and other students’ property with respect.
* Students will not cause disruptions in the classroom.
  + No horseplay.
  + Do not talk when someone is talking.
  + Do not throw objects.
  + Do not play with gas valves and faucets.
  + Be seated and ready to work when class begins.
* No cheating (see student handbook)
* Students will come to class prepared to learn.
* Food is not permitted in class.
* **ABSOLUTELY NO PHONES OR ALLOWED UNLESS GIVEN PERMISSION BY TEACHER. *REFER TO SCHOOL POLICY*.**

**Restroom Policy**  
At the beginning of the nine weeks, students will automatically be given **6** RR Passes, If you use **only** two of the six passes, your two lowest assignments will be dropped, provided you turned them in. **They will not replace zeros!** **NO** one will be allowed to leave the classroom during the first or last 10 minutes of the period.

**Tardies**

Three tardies equal one unexcused absence. Avoid truancy and get to class and in your seats on time.

**Tutoring**

If you ever find this course to be difficult and/or overwhelming, I am here to help you. Do not hesitate to ask for help. I will be available before school begins. I may be reached by email.

**PLEASE, LET ME KNOW THE DAY BEFORE IF YOU ARE COMING IN.**

**Teacher Area**

NO student is allowed behind the teacher’s desk. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**Substitute Teachers**

ALL should and WILL be treated with respect. I will make sure that the substitute has sufficient assignments for the duration of the class period. The substitute will be informed on the assignments that need to be turned in, and will be asked to leave notes informing me of your behavior.

**Technology**

BYOD WILL follow school and classroom policy. If not being used, ALL devices will be kept away in your backpacks, purses, etc.

**Materials**

1. Pens (any color, but at least 1 Black or Blue)

2. Composition Notebook

3. Highlighters

4. Pencil Colors

5. Dividers

6. 1 ½ to 2 inch Binder (must have clear pocket in the front)

BOYS - 1 Bottle of Hand Sanitizer

GIRLS - 1 Box of Kleenex

**Forensic Science Contract**

Finally, feedback from the community (parents or guardians of our students) is always an essential component for successful schools.  Please do not hesitate to contact me if you feel there is a problem starting to develop. If you need to talk face to face, I am available during 5th Block or before school. You can e-mail me at rcgarcia[@sharylandisd.org](mailto:jkaltenbach@sharylandisd.org)  for an even quicker response.  It is always better if we work together.

By signing below, it is understood that the parent and student has read the course syllabus and that the student will adhere to the rules set forth by the teacher.

Student’s signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ID#:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s printed name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**To be completed by the parent:**

Parent’s name (printed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_