



Course Approval Form

For approval of new courses and deletions or modifications to an existing course.

registrar.gmu.edu/facultystaff/curriculum

Action Requested:

Create new course Delete existing course

Modify existing course (check all that apply)

Title Credits Repeat Status Grade Type

Prereq/coreq Schedule Type Restrictions

Other: _____

Course Level:

Undergraduate

Graduate

College/School: **Department:**

Submitted by: **Ext:** **Email:**

Subject Code: **Number:** **Effective Term:** Fall Spring Summer

(Do not list multiple codes or numbers. Each course proposal must have a separate form.)

Year

Title: Current

Banner (30 characters max including spaces)

New

Credits: Fixed Variable or

Repeat Status: Not Repeatable (NR) Repeatable within degree (RD) Repeatable within term (RT)

Maximum credits allowed:

Grade Mode: Regular (A, B, C, etc.) Satisfactory/No Credit Special (A, B C, etc. +IP)

Schedule Type Code(s): Lecture (LEC) Lab (LAB) Recitation (RCT) Internship (INT)

Independent Study (IND) Seminar (SEM) Studio (STU)

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Instructional Mode: 100% face-to-face Hybrid: ≤ 50% electronically delivered 100% electronically delivered

Special Instructions: (list restrictions for major, college, or degree; hard-coding; etc.)

Are there equivalent course(s)? Yes No

If yes, please list _____

Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only (Consult University Catalog for models)

Description (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)	Notes (List additional information for the course)
This course will familiarize students with the basic principles and uses of forensic science in the American system of justice. This course will review the basic applications of biological, physical, chemical, medical and behavioral sciences to questions of evidence and law. In doing so, students should gain a basic understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the forensic sciences as they are practiced.	
Indicate number of contact hours: Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: <input type="text" value="3"/> Hours of Lab or Studio: <input type="text"/>	
When Offered: (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fall <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Spring	

Approval Signatures

Department Approval _____ Date _____ College/School Approval _____ Date _____

If this course includes subject matter currently dealt with by any other units, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

For Graduate Courses Only

Graduate Council Member _____ Provost Office _____ Graduate Council Approval Date _____

Course proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee

1. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:

FRSC 200: Survey of Forensic Science

Course Prerequisites: None

Catalog Description: (3:3:0)

This course will familiarize students with the basic principles and uses of forensic science in the American system of justice. This course will review the basic applications of biological, physical, chemical, medical and behavioral sciences to questions of evidence and law. In doing so, students should gain a basic understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the forensic sciences as they are practiced.

2. COURSE JUSTIFICATION:

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are to introduce the students to the basic principles, techniques and practices used to identify evidence and handle evidence. As well as understanding and to be able to use terminology of the basic sciences as applied to the solving of forensic problems.

Course Necessity:

This course will introduce students to basic concepts and principles of forensic science that will help them gain more knowledge in a wide field of scientific techniques. This field encompasses many scientific areas which, if used properly, can make invaluable contributions to the resolution of social and legal disputes.

Course Relationship to Existing Programs:

The new Forensic program is rapidly growing with tremendous interest. There is no course that emphasizes the techniques and practices of scientists in the area of forensics.

Course Relationship to Existing Courses:

None

3. APPROVAL HISTORY: N/A

4. SCHEDULING AND PROPOSED INSTRUCTORS:

Semester of Initial Offering: Fall 2010

Proposed Instructors: William Whildin

5. TENTATIVE SYLLABUS: See attached.

Survey of Forensic Science

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: William Whildin

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course will familiarize students with the basic principles and uses of forensic science in the American system of justice. This course will review the basic applications of biological, physical, chemical, medical and behavioral sciences to questions of evidence and law. In doing so, students should gain a basic understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the forensic sciences as they are practiced.

Lecture Content:

1. Introduction and history of forensics
2. Physical Evidence and the legal system
3. Introduction to crime scene management
4. Examination and Interpretation of Patterns for Reconstruction
5. Criminal Investigations
6. The use of the Polygraph / lab
7. Midterm
8. Ultraviolet, Infrared, and Fluorescence Lighting
9. Tool marks and Firearms
10. Blood and physiological Fluid Evidence
11. Introduction to Crime Laboratories
12. Arson and Explosion Evidence
13. Medico-legal Death Investigation
14. Materials Evidence

Project:

Students will be required to write a project paper on a selected topic in forensic science.

Exams: The midterm exam will be an in-class, closed book exam that will cover the topics in the previous weeks lecture. The final will be comprehensive and in the same format.

Grades: 30% Midterm, 30% Final, 30% Project, 10% Participation

Required Text:

Introduction to Forensic Science and Criminalists, 1st Edition by; Robert Gaensslen, Howard Harris, and Henry Lee.