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etextbook**

CCJS 320 - Sections 0101 and 0301

Fall 2026

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CRIME LABORATORY: 2401 Marie Mount Hall ****No open-toe shoes or sandals are to be worn in the lab.***

MOCK CRIME SCENE FACILITY: 0406 Marie Mount Hall

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment.



***IMPORTANT NOTICE TO STUDENTS**

Welcome to CCJS 320, Introduction to Criminalistics, a blended learning course. The format of the course is as follows:

- All content, lectures, and reading material are online and contained in the course e-textbook.
- In-Lab in-person classes are weekly for 2 hours on Section 0101 on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Section 0301, Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Activities include practical exercises, mock crime scenes, and physical evidence processing and examination.
- There are 24 students in each section.
- Each section is divided into three eight-person teams. The teams are named after the UMD colors, Gold, Red, and Black. Each team is assigned to a crime scene that you will be working on together as a team throughout the semester.
 - **Gold Team** - Crime Scene 1 (Office Scene)
 - **Red Team** - Crime Scene 2 (Meth Lab Scene)
 - **Black Team** - Crime Scene 3 (Outside Scene)
- You will be assigned to one of the three teams at the beginning of the semester.
- Each member of the 8-person team will be assigned a specific responsibility that will be assigned to them.

I am using an e-textbook written by Tom Mauriello that integrates this course's content into a single, neat learning package. It is titled "Introduction to Criminalistics - From Crime Scene to Courtroom" and published by Great River Learning. It is suggested that you purchase this etextbook software as soon as possible. See below for details on how to purchase it. Please read the following very carefully.

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES: CCJS 320 is a *flipped* classroom, *blended learning (BL)*, *hybrid-format* course. The course strategically examines the scientific methods used to investigate, detect, and solve crime.

As a class, we explore all the vital phases of the criminal investigation process and forensic sciences (Criminalistics) from the *crime scene* to the *courtroom*.

Each week, you will learn from a combination of video lectures, written content, federal standards, guest interviews from the instructor's webcast TV series, video clips from TV documentaries, and other learning events. You will complete in-module activity exercises to test your knowledge as you go along, case studies, mock hearing exercises, and homework activities that allow you to demonstrate your grasp of the material presented, most of which you will complete outside the crime laboratory at your convenience.

During your scheduled class, you will be in the CCJS Crime Laboratory engaged in hands-on activities, case studies, and processing of your assigned mock crime scene and related evidence.

2. COURSE "VIDEO LECTURE" [VL] ASSIGNMENTS: The video lectures for each study module are in the e-textbook. The time duration for each of the sub-module video lectures is anywhere from 3 to 35 minutes in length. The video content includes Professor Mauriello lecturing on-camera, using his accompanying PowerPoint slides and other A/V presentations.

3. COURSE REQUIRED "READING" ASSIGNMENTS: All reading assignments are integrated into the e-textbook.

5. ONLINE QUIZZES: This course has NO mid-term or final examination. The e-textbook has a quiz at the end of each module that is posted and administered online. A specific window of time for you to complete these quizzes is listed. Quizzes can only be taken during the listed period of time. Times may change or be adjusted during the semester, so students must be attentive when these changes are communicated.

6. REQUIRED BOOK: eTextbook - "*Introduction to Criminalistics - From Crime Scene to Court Room,*" author Thomas P. Mauriello, ISBN#: 9781680754469. **(Electronic ONLY)**. You can purchase it online directly from the publisher, Great River Learning. [Click here to register and purchase online.](#) Click Purchase and select University of Maryland College Park. It will take you to a drop-down menu where you can select Introduction to Criminalistics.

Make sure when you register for the etextbook, that you register yourself in your correct section, Section 0101 or Section 0301.

7. EVALUATION and GRADING SYSTEM:

15% Laboratory Attendance:*

25% Laboratory and written Exercises:

30% Quizzes:*

10% Textbook Activity Exercises

20% Final Crime Scene Team Presentation

* Video lectures and Reading assignments scheduled in the e-textbook calendar, including the associated quizzes, must be completed before attending the corresponding content laboratory session. Students who have NOT taken the quiz scheduled before a Monday laboratory session will NOT be allowed to attend or participate in that laboratory session. That would result in losing lab attendance and lab exercise credit for that lab class.

8. LABORATORY ASSIGNMENTS and SCHEDULING:*

Attendance is required during scheduled laboratory sessions. Registered students in all sections will attend laboratory classes in their regularly scheduled time period. Section TAs will always be available in the lab during these scheduled class times. See "Laboratory Attendance" in the Assignment tab and the course Calendar.

CCJS 320 is scheduled as follows:

Section 0101 - Tuesdays 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Section 0301 - Wednesdays 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

9. TEACHING ASSISTANT:

0101 - Claire Tyler -

0301 - Kayla Nophsker

10. TEACHING ASSISTANT OFFICE HOURS:

0101 - Claire Tyler - Tuesdays, immediately before class

0301 - Kayla Nophsker - Wednesdays, immediately before class

11. CRIME LAB KITS: A Crime Lab Kit is signed out to each CCJS 320 student during the first lab session. The kit contains the expendable materials and analytical tools required to complete certain homework assignments during the semester. At the end of the semester, the kits **MUST** be returned by the last lab class.

12. UNIVERSITY REGULATION, GUIDELINES, and POLICIES: [Click here.](#)

13. COURSE GRADING SCHEME:

A	100 %	to 90.0%
A-	< 90.0 %	to 88.8%
B+	< 88.8 %	to 86.0%
B	< 86.0 %	to 80.0%
B-	< 80.0 %	to 78.79%
C+	< 78.79 %	to 76.0%
C	< 76.0 %	to 70.0%
C-	< 70.0 %	to 68.79%
D+	< 68.79 %	to 66.0%
D	< 66.0 %	to 60.0%
D-	< 60.0 %	to 58.8%
F	< 58.8 %	to 0.0%

14. Crime Scene 1 Gold Team Video [VTs 01 1 - Crime Scene 1 - YouTube](#)

Crime Scene 2 Red Team Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rQWGD0Nx2w>

Crime Scene 3 Black Team Video [VTs 01 1 - Crime Scene 3 UMCP - YouTube](#)

15. [Rubric](#) for the Final Mock Crime Scene Presentation

16. [CCJS 320 Team leader Investigator Report and File.pdf](#)

READ FIRST !!!