

Course: Forensic Science

Textbook: *Forensic Science for High School* Third Edition Barbara Ball

Forensic Science is a high-interest, inquiry-rich integrated science that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving through the use of real-world forensic science methodologies. For every piece of physical evidence brought in for analysis, the student must apply the scientific method. Students will learn the strengths and limitations of each forensic technique and its appropriate use in the courtroom. Using computational thinking and mathematical modeling, students will be able to quantitatively determine the effectiveness of each analytical technique.

Students will be required to complete case studies, labs, and crime scene simulations. These methods will be a primary means of teacher evaluation of student understanding in the classroom.

Grading categories will be as follows:

Summative Assessments: 30%

Lab Notebook: 30%

Formative Assessments: 20%

Semester Final Project: 20%

The following topics will be covered throughout this year long course:

Introduction to Forensic Science and the Law

Types of Evidence

The Crime Scene

Fingerprints

Hair

Fibers

Drugs

Toxicology: Poisons and Alcohol

Trace Evidence

Soil and Glass Analysis

Blood

DNA Analysis

Forensic Entomology

Human Remains

Firearms, Toolmarks, and Impressions

Document and Handwriting Analysis

Cybercrime