Forensic Science
2018–2019 Syllabus (Course Outline)

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https://www.trivalleycsd.org/Page/3603

What is Forensic Science?
Forensic Science is a full year multi-disciplinary science and an interdisciplinary subject which focuses on the application of science to the criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in the criminal justice system. The course will study evidence of cases and the techniques used to collect and analyze the evidence. Group work will emphasize these techniques to solve fictional cases and to look at famous past non-fictional cases. Successful completion of Forensic Science will result in 1.0 Physical Science credit in science.

Topics of Study:
Documentation; Crime Scene; Physical Evidence; Properties of Matter and the Analysis of Glass; Drugs; Forensic Toxicology; The Microscope; Forensic Toxicology; DNA; Hairs and Fibers; Metals, Paints, and Soil; Forensic Aspect of Fire Investigation; Forensic Investigation of Explosions; Fingerprints; Firearms, Tool Marks, and Other Impressions; Document Examination; Computer Forensics; Forensics and the Internet; Careers in Forensic Science. (Some topics may not be covered due to limitations in time and resources)

Course Goals:
1. Learn about Forensic Science;
2. Enhance note-taking, organizational, and study skills;
3. Develop basic laboratory techniques related to Forensics;

Materials: (MUST HAVE FOR CLASS EVERYDAY!)
- 3– ring loose leaf binder (3–4” thick) with loose leaf paper (exclusively for Forensic Science)
- Marble-bound Composition Notebook (for Science Journal that stays in the classroom)
- Pens (Blue or Black Ink Only) and #2 pencils (two or more of each)--Please NO MECHANICAL PENS and/or PENCILS!
- Assignment pad OR daily planner (Agenda).
- Set of page separators (for notes, class work, labs, homework, quizzes, and tests)

Grading:
You can calculate your grade by looking at the total points earned divided by the total points possible.

Up to 100 points – for each Unit/Chapter Test
Up to 50 points – for each Chapter Quiz and Laboratory assignment
Up to 10 points – for each Homework, Classwork, and Science Journal entry
Web Page and Assignments: (This Is A Very Important Resource!)  
For additional copies of this form and for any of the handouts/outlines from class, a list of assignments, including links to review and practice resources, please visit and bookmark/favorite this webpage at:  

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Homework:  
Homework will be assigned periodically to help reinforce what you are learning in class and/or be used as a form of review. You are expected to complete ALL homework assignments given to you by the date they are due. Any late homework assignments will lose half credit the first day late, then lose full credit the second day late. If there is a valid reason for any homework being late or need for an extension, please see us. If you have an excused absence, you are responsible for getting the homework assignment from us and/or on the class webpage.

Tardies and Absences:  
The school’s late (tardy) and absentee policy is in effect in all classes, including this class: (refer to “Attendance and Late Policies” in the student handbook or on the school’s webpage). You are responsible for making up any missed notes, classwork, laboratory, and homework assignments. Please see us as soon as you return to school for missed work and assignments, and for a timeline for when to turn the missed work in to us. Typically you have one day to make up the missed work for each excused absence.

Classroom Expectations:  
- Be on time and prepared with these keys for success:
  - Bring your notebook.
  - Do your homework.
  - Bring a pen – black or blue ink only please, pencil for graphs.
  - Please write your first and last name, class period, and date on all items to be turned in.
- Be respectful of everyone in the classroom:
  - Do not talk when anyone else is talking; you do not want to miss anything.
  - Stay seated during the period so you don’t distract others trying to concentrate.
  - Hold all papers/trash/recycling to throw out until the end of the period.
- Be Safe:
  - Follow all safety procedures in the classroom.
  - No food or drink of any kind in the science classroom.
  - As per the student handbook: water in clear plastic bottles is permitted during class only.

Behavior Expectations:  
- Please do not throw or toss anything around the room.
- Please keep the legs of the chair and your feet on the ground.
  - Tipping and leaning in/on your chair is dangerous and could result in injury.
- Be respectful of school property.
  - No writing on desks, chairs, and/or other furniture

Behavior Consequences – Three-Strike Policy  
- If a student breaks any of the classroom rules and/or school polices, it will result in a first strike (verbal warning).
- If the same student breaks any of the classroom rules and/or school polices, it will result in a second strike (verbal warning).
- If the same student breaks any of the classroom rules and/or school polices, it will result in a third strike (disciplinary referral).

If disruptive behavior is persistent, such as a student getting two strikes at least twice in one week, parent/guardian may be notified of the behavior.

**Each day will begin with a clean slate with no strikes**
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Please tear off this last page and return to Mr. Jones.

Please sign and date below that you have read and agree to follow the classroom expectations, behavioral expectations, consequences, and the policies set forth, and return this form to me. Failure to sign and return this form will result in the student not being allowed to participate in any laboratory work and to not receive a grade for any lab portion of the course. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you and I look forward to a fun and successful year in Forensic Science.

_____________________________________________  __________________________
Student Signature                     Date

_____________________________________________
Student (Please print full first & last name clearly)

_____________________________________________  __________________________
Parent or Guardian Signature          Date

_____________________________________________
Parent or Guardian (Please print full first & last name clearly)