

COURSE TITLE Public Safety

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CLASS MEETING TIMES 2020 - 2021 Class Schedule 8/19/2020 – 5/31/2021
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 10:30 am **OR**
Monday – Friday 12:30 am – 2:30 pm

TEXTBOOK

Charles Swanson, Neil Chamelin, Leonard Territo, and Robert W Taylor, *Criminal Investigation*, 12th edition; McGraw Hill, (2019) ISBN 978-0078026577

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is for students interested in the criminal justice system and includes a broad overview of the history and scope of the American criminal justice system primarily through a descriptive survey of the agencies and processes involved in the administration of criminal justice. The course emphasizes historical, constitutional (legal) and political considerations. This introduction to criminal investigation gives students a logical framework for understanding the investigative process. Major sections cover current issues such as environmental crime, the looting of archaeological sites, videotaping of crime scenes, street gangs, and drugs. Case studies throughout the text emphasize the applied technique of criminal investigation. Graphs, charts, and compelling photographs found throughout the text depict the practical aspects of investigation and help to clarify difficult scientific concepts.

ACADEMIC CREDITS

Students who take Public Safety can earn credits for the fourth required math credit, a third credit of science, a visual performing and applied arts credit and/or may substitute this CTE class in place of a second year of foreign language. Local district policy and other circumstances may limit or expand the use of CTE classes in place of other credit requirements.

POSTSECONDARY CONNECTIONS

The MACC offers students with a B or better each semester the opportunity to earn articulated credits at several community colleges and universities around the state. Public Safety offers articulated credits at Montcalm Community College. Additional information can be found on our website or by talking with the instructor.

WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The second year program of Public Safety offers work-based learning in the form of internships with area law enforcement based agencies.

CLASS OBJECTIVES

Develop a general understanding of concepts terms, philosophical underpinnings, and trends essential to a broad understanding of the American criminal justice system. Upon successful completion of the course, students will have a basic knowledge of:

- 1 The Evolution of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science
- 2 Legal Aspects of Investigation
- 3 Investigators, the Investigative Process, and the Crime Scene
- 4 Physical Evidence
- 5 Interviewing and Interrogation
- 6 Field Notes and Reporting
- 7 The Follow-Up Investigation and Investigative Resources
- 8 The Crime Laboratory
- 9 Injury and Death Investigations
- 10 Sex-Related Offenses
- 11 Crimes against Children
- 12 Human Trafficking
- 13 Robbery
- 14 Burglary
- 15 Larceny/Theft and White-Collar Crime
- 16 Vehicle Thefts and Related Offenses
- 17 Cybercrime
- 18 Agricultural, Wildlife, and Environmental Crimes
- 19 Arson and Explosives Investigations
- 20 Recognition, Control, and Investigation of Drug Abuse
- 21 Terrorism
- 22 The Trial Process and the Investigator as a Witness

GRADING CRITERIA

Grades will be based on total points that will vary by assignment. Grades are not weighted. Grading includes written assignments, quizzes, mid-term and final exams each semester. Active participation is essential to successful completion of the class, and will be part of the course grade. In addition to assignments and tests, part of students' grade is based on professionalism and participation. Failure to bring your book to class, sleeping, no call/no show absences, use of phone during unapproved times, unauthorized use of computers, disruptiveness, and other misuse of time or violation of class rules will result in the reduction of 5 points from your total grade.

Grading Scale

A	93 – 100%
A-	90 – 92%
B+	87 – 89%
B	83 – 86%
B-	80 – 82%
C+	77 – 79%

C	73 – 76%
C-	70 – 72%
D+	67 – 69%
D	63 – 66%
D-	60 – 62%
F	59% and below

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be chapter assignments, as well as projects, a midterm and final exam each semester.

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION TO 2ND SEMESTER, 2ND YEAR, & INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Acceptance into second semester of Public Safety is contingent upon achieving a passing grade (D- or above) in first semester.

Acceptance into the second year program is contingent on completion of the first year with a C or better in class, and judgement of the instructor. Sufficient grades do not guarantee 2nd year acceptance. Students who achieve a C or better, but who are disruptive in class, turn in work late, or do not take the program seriously, may not be asked to return for a second year.

Those accepted as 2nd year students who achieve a B or better their first year, may apply to the internship/work based learning program. Because of the level of independent study involved (3 days a week out of the MACC classroom,) acceptance is strictly limited and highly dependant on interviews by local law enforcement officials and judgment of the instructor that the student is able to maintain a level of professionalism needed to represent the class in the community. Students also must have their own transportation to job sites.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to be honest in their studies. Dishonesty in completing assignments, examinations or other academic endeavors is considered a serious violation of the rights of others and is subject to disciplinary action, ranging from a zero on an assignment up to being dropped from the course. Plagiarism, the failure to give credit for ideas, thoughts or material taken from another, is cheating and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism includes using someone else's exact words, or even their ideas but not their exact words. It is a good rule of thumb that if you did not know the information before you started the assignment, you must cite your source.

ADA STATEMENT

It is the policy of Montcalm Area Intermediate School District that no person shall be subjected to discrimination in any educational program, service, or activity that it provides, nor in any employment for which it is responsible. As such, MAISD and its Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender (including orientation or transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected classes. Inquiries related to discrimination should be directed to the MAISD Superintendent.