



CRIMINOLOGY 1030 FDE – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINALISTICS - FALL 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Carolan Wood

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VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS: weekly via Zoom - to be determined by students – please complete Doodle poll (link provided on the course website)

D2L COURSE LINK: <https://mycourselink.lakeheadu.ca/d2l/home/87719>

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to the basic aspects of forensic investigation. Particular focus will be placed on types of crime scenes, the collection of different forms of crime scene evidence, the scientific analysis of physical evidence, and the role of forensic science in criminal justice proceedings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Define criminalistics and describe how scientific principles are applied to the resolution of legal matters
- Describe the role of forensic experts, their limitations, and how these experts contribute to criminal investigation
- Identify the critical role professionalism plays in the forensic sciences and the importance of being professional in everyday life
- Explain the importance of teamwork between different agencies and experts in the course of a forensic investigation
- Demonstrate comprehension of expectations associated with writing with academic integrity
- Locate academic sources using university resources, and employ these sources in evidence-based discipline-specific writing and citation
- Construct an argument based in logic through the use of peer-reviewed scientific evidence

COURSE MATERIALS: under 'Content' you will see 'CRIM 1030 Course materials' where you will find the CRIM 1030 Reading list /Course links document (see also the weekly course schedule). All course materials are available through the Lakehead library or are provided as a pdf.

LEARNING ASSESSMENTS:

	DUE	%
Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) certificates	Sept 22	or written assignments not graded
Professionalism comment submitted to PeerScholar	Sept 27	10%
PeerScholar Assess phase due	Oct 4	see above
PeerScholar Reflect phase due	Oct 6	see above
Edited Professionalism comment	Oct 20	15%
Midterm exam	Oct 25	30%
Critical Thinking assignment	Nov 29	15%
Final exam during exam period	Dec 9-19	30%

Nov 5, 2021 is the final day to withdraw from this course. You will have at least **30%** of your final grade completed and returned to you by this date.

CRIMINOLOGY 1030: INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINALISTICS – FALL SCHEDULE 2021		
DAY	TOPIC	READINGS
Sept 8 WE	Greetings and Course Introduction Get started on your research by reviewing the 'Library Research Tips' module under content	Read syllabus thoroughly <i>Understanding Peer Review</i>
Sept 13 MO	Professionalism	Campbell 2012; Keaton 2017; <i>University of Waterloo: Writing Professional Emails</i>
Sept 15 WE	Writing guidelines and Peer review Read assignment instructions and citation guidelines	<i>Receiving & giving effective feedback</i>
Sept 20 MO	Introduction to Criminalistics	<i>The Real Science of Forensics</i>
Sept 22 WE	AIM CERTIFICATE DUE – or written assignments NOT accepted for grading Canadian legal system /Admissibility of evidence /Expert witness & Ethics	Schneider 2016 pp. 23-36 Rondinelli 2016 pp. 37-43
Sept 27 MO	SUBMIT COMMENT TO PEERSCHOLAR Crime Scene Investigation Physical Evidence WATCH Frontline: the Real CSI (53:41)	<i>The dollhouses of death that changed forensic science;</i> <i>Toronto Police: Forensic Identification Using fluorescent light to find evidence</i>
Sept 29 WE	Assess phase of peerScholar open Scientific method in forensic science	Pakosh 2016 pp. 1-9
Oct 4 MO	ASSESS PHASE OF PEERSCHOLAR DUE Crime Scene Reconstruction PT 1 – Blood splatter	Laternus 2016 pp. 113-132 <i>Blood Stain Pattern Analysis Demo</i>
Oct 6 WE	REFLECT PHASE OF PEERSCHOLAR DUE Crime Scene Reconstruction PT 2 - Shooting	Hendrikse 2016 pp. 234-247
Oct 11-13	FALL STUDY WEEK – no classes	
Oct 18 MO	Fingerprints PT1	Knaap 2016 pp. 187-212
Oct 20 WE	FINAL PROFESSIONALISM COMMENT DUE (15%) Fingerprints PT2	
Oct 25 MO	ONLINE MIDTERM EXAM (30%)	
Oct 27 WE	Critical thinking in Forensic Science	Schweitzer & Saks 2007 (<i>pdf provided</i>) WATCH Frontline: Post Mortem (53:40)
Nov 1 MO	Death Investigation / Forensic Pathology	Provincial Forensic Pathology Unit Toronto 2016 pp. 626-631; <i>A day in the life of a Forensic Pathologist</i>
Nov 3 WE	Forensic Anthropology	Rogers 2016 pp. 324-327 <i>Canada's 1st forensics body farm</i>
Nov 8 MO	Forensic Entomology	Anderson & VanLaerhoven 2016 pp. 499-516; <i>The bugs that decompose bodies</i>
Nov 10 WE	Forensic Biology and DNA	Hageman 2016 pp. 381-398; <i>How does DNA fingerprinting work?; Genealogists Turn to Cousins' DNA & Family Trees to Crack Cold Cases</i>
Nov 15 MO	Forensic Toxicology - part I	Wigmore & Watterson 2016 pp. 719-732; 736-738; 750-754; <i>Toxicology Detective</i>
Nov 17 WE	Forensic Toxicology - part II	
Nov 22 MO	Document Examination	Purdy 2016 pp. 457-480
Nov 24 WE		
Nov 29 MO	CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENT DUE (15%)	
Dec 1 WE	Fire Investigation	Chlistovsky 2016 pp. 269-287
Dec 6 MO	Explosives	
Dec 9-19	ONLINE FINAL EXAM DURING EXAM PERIOD (30%)	

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION

COPYRIGHT POLICY: ALL content hosted on the Desire2Learn CRIM 1030 website and provided in class is protected by Canadian copyright laws. Such content is either copyright to Lakehead University, all rights reserved, copyright of the course instructor, or as otherwise stated in the particular materials. Duplication (**for example: taking screen captures, recording lectures using voice recorders, digital photography and/or video recorders etc.**), **redistribution (i.e. sharing content), or reselling of this content is strictly prohibited.**

Students are bound by these terms and conditions:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/293/docs/Student-Conduct/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Non-Academic.pdf>

E-MAIL POLICY: Maintaining professionalism is extremely important in forensic science and therefore also in the CRIM 1030 course. Students must treat email as professional correspondence - use a formal tone and format (e.g. Hello Dr. Wood). Keep your emails brief, and use virtual office hours for longer discussions. **Please email me directly at cwood3@lakeheadu.ca – DO NOT use the email through D2L. Students must use their Lakehead email address AND the course identifier ‘CRIM 1030 FDF’ MUST appear FIRST in the subject line** to ensure that their messages are delivered and not filtered out as spam. **I will do my best to reply to email within 48 weekday hours**, but at busy times there may be a bit of a delay. If you do not get a reply within that time frame – ensure you have met the above criteria and resend. Please do come talk with me during virtual office hours!

STATEMENT ON LEARNING: It is the student’s responsibility to check the course website regularly and ensure they are receiving notifications of D2L messages /announcements. To be successful in a 12-week course you can expect to devote **about 9 hours** each week engaging with the course content (e.g. watching lectures and taking notes, reading, and completing the learning assessments). Questions are strongly encouraged. Attention to detail is imperative. Be aware that you cannot redo a learning assessment, nor are there make-up or extra credit assignments, so try to come to office hours for feedback well ahead of the deadline. Lectures /outlines are released on the day stipulated in the course schedule. **Lecture is a major component of assessments, so be sure to give the lectures your full attention and take detailed notes.** A slide outline will be posted for most lectures, but be aware that the outline will not include all the information provided during lecture. An outline is meant as a guide. You may have a note taking strategy that works for you, but know that the outline is meant to be printed out, to be filled in by hand or can be completed on a tablet during lecture. The pace of the lecture is based on this practice. Taking notes by hand is a useful skill to develop and numerous studies have shown it helps to improve information retention and comprehension.

Know I am here to help you with personal feedback during virtual office hours to keep you on track throughout the course. I will hold drop-in open student hours weekly using Zoom on a day and time to be determined by students – please complete the posted Doodle poll to state your preference. To access virtual student hours, register for a Lakehead Zoom account using your Lakehead email and login through the Lakehead’s Zoom Web Portal Login. You must use the first and last name that you are registered under in the course to gain entry. Be aware that only authenticated users can join. Virtual student hours will be on an individual basis, unless you request otherwise. Students will wait in the Zoom waiting room until their turn arrives to be admitted. A Zoom link will be posted on the course website to access individual student hours once we have decided on a day and time.

STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS: As a university student, you may sometimes experience mental health concerns or stressful events that interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily activities. All of us can benefit from support during times of struggle. If you or anyone you know experiences academic stress, difficult life events or feelings of anxiety or depression, Student Health and Wellness is here to help. Their services are free for Lakehead Students and appointments are available. You can learn more about confidential mental health services available on and off campus at lakeheadu.ca/shw. Remember that getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do- for yourself, for those you care about, and for those who care about you. Asking for support sooner rather than later is almost always helpful.

LEARNING ASSESSMENTS:

Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) Course Certificate of Completion: The AIM course is a (free) self-registered course available through myCourseLink that consists of 8 short videos, each with a corresponding 5-question quiz designed to cover the basics of academic integrity and the expectations we have for our students under the Academic Integrity Code. Students will receive a Certificate of Completion once they have successfully completed all 5 quizzes. **Students will submit the AIM certificate of completion in its original file format (pdf) to the 'AIM' folder under 'Assignments' in D2L prior to 11:59 pm ET Sept. 22. DO NOT RENAME the certificate. Please be aware that assignments will NOT be graded unless the official AIM certificate has been successfully submitted prior to the due date.** The AIM learning site is administered through the Student Success Centre (not through CRIM 1030) and questions or issues must be addressed to academiczone.ssc@lakeheadu.ca or you can call Orillia 705-330-4008 ext. 8859 or TBay (807) 343-8859. To access the AIM learning site: Log in to mycourselink. Click the 'Self Registration' near the top-right of the page (under 'Support'. Select " Academic Integrity Matters (AIM)" from the list. Follow the steps presented until it confirms that you have been registered.

PeerScholar activity (10%): Students will submit their Professionalism comment to PeerScholar® to provide peer review and receive expert feedback. You will be graded on your ability to give and receive feedback (5 pts), and the quality and completeness of your first draft (5 pts). If you do not submit a complete professionalism comment to PeerScholar you cannot take part in the peer review activity and will lose 10% of your final grade. The 'Assess phase' will require you to give three peers feedback by providing comments and suggestions to improve their paper. The 'Reflect phase' will require you to comment on the feedback given to you. Further instruction is provided with the Professionalism comment/ PeerScholar activity instructions.

Professionalism comment (15%) and Critical Thinking assignment (15%): Detailed instructions, a grading scheme, and citation guidelines are provided on D2L for both assignments.

Online Midterm (30%) and Final Exam (30%): Exams are not cumulative - the midterm will cover all content from the first half of the course, and all remaining content will be on the final exam. The exam will be available for completion from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm on the day stipulated in the course schedule. The date of the final exam is determined by the registrar's office. You will have a standard amount of time to complete both exams online (e.g. 160 minutes). Be sure to study just like you would if the exam took place in class. Exams will include multiple-choice and True/False questions based on all course materials. Exam answers will not be released (you will be able to view your score), but I can certainly answer specific questions after the exam periods have ended. See the exam Info page - <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/studentcentral/exams-grades>

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION POLICY: All learning assessments must be submitted electronically via D2L before the due date. **Emailed assignments are NOT accepted.** Be sure to follow the submission requirements set out in the assignment instructions. **Late learning assessments are not accepted in this course, but extenuating circumstances are always**

considered. If you miss work, follow the procedure found in the 'Missed Work Policy' below. **It is the student's responsibility to ensure all work is successfully submitted well ahead of the deadline.** Be sure to give yourself plenty of time to upload to D2L. **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WITHOUT BOTH IN-TEXT CITATIONS AND A CORRESPONDING LIST OF REFERENCES WILL NOT BE GRADED.**

MISSED WORK POLICY: If you are ill (have a death in the family, or other issue beyond your control) and miss an assignment deadline or test, **you MUST EMAIL THE PROFESSOR WITHIN 72 HOURS OF THE DUE DATE/TIME OF THE MISSED LEARNING ASSESSMENT** to request a make-up opportunity. **Late requests cannot be considered.** Requests for extensions will be granted on the basis of legitimate medical or compassionate grounds. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, be aware that Lakehead University is temporarily suspending the need for a student to provide a medical note or Certificate of Illness or Incapacitation. In situations where illness is not the issue, official supporting documentation (e.g. accident /police report etc.) must be sent to the professor via email, along with your email request for a make up **within 72 hours of the deadline.** Documents must be scanned in high-resolution colour, or a high-quality undistorted photo of the document must be provided. **If your request is granted, be prepared for the makeup test/or to submit the assignment at any time.** There will be no opportunity to defer a makeup test or a renegotiated assignment deadline.

POLICY ON ASSIGNMENT REAPPRAISAL: Please come speak to me during virtual office hours where I can provide detailed feedback and we can go over your work together. Requests for "remarks" must be submitted in writing **within 1 week** of the date the graded assignments/tests were made available for students to view. To request a remark, submit a concise, organized written request via email providing tangible evidence (opinion is not evidence) as to why your assignment should receive a different grade. Any work remarked by the instructor will involve the entire assignment, not simply the questions or portion you believe were scored improperly, therefore, it is possible that your original mark may go down, rather than up or stay the same. The revised mark stands. Please note that marks are not awarded for effort, but for the quality of the final product. Remember that in first year university courses, student grades, on average, tend to decrease at least 10-15% from the high school average - and that is assuming that you are putting a lot of effort into your work. In other words, it takes a lot more effort and hard work to achieve the "A" grade that you may have easily received in high school.

FINAL GRADES: Final grades will be calculated according to the weights listed in the university's grading scheme. Interim grades can be found in the D2L course website under the Grades tool.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Plagiarism, cheating and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Being caught engaging in any such activities will result in disciplinary action either within the course or at the university level. See University Regulations and code of student behaviour and disciplinary procedures:

<http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=21&chapterid=3506&loaduseredits=False>. The following rules shall govern the treatment of students who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly:

- (a) The minimum penalty for a student found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.
- (b) A student found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

Students disciplined under the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may appeal their case through the Judicial Panel.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability that requires accommodations, I strongly encourage you to make use of those accommodations. I am here to assist you, but need your help in ensuring I accommodate you properly. Lakehead is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities. Student Accessibility Services (SAS) coordinate services and facilitates reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Additional information is available at: Student Accessibility Services: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

LAKEHEAD RESOURCES: If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, do not hesitate to ask for help! Talk to me, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your academic advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus, including:

The Student Success Centre has many programs and support services in place to help you achieve your academic and personal goals while studying at Lakehead University. The Student success centre: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/students/academic-success/student-success-centre> provides academic support through tutoring services, career exploration, co-operative opportunities and leadership development.

The Lakehead Library provides access to resources, study rooms, and research support online via chat, and in person. Go to <https://library.lakeheadu.ca/>

Student Life and Services offers health and wellness resources both on and off campus, as well as opportunities for involvement in health and wellness activities. More info Student services <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/or>

Office of Human Rights and Equity. You have the right to an education that is free from any form of discrimination. A wide variety of resources are available here Office of Human Rights and Equity: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/human-rights-and-equity/resources>