

2020 SUNY Forensic Science Summer Assignment

Read one of the following books related to Forensic Science. Keep a **typed** journal, summarizing each chapter and describing what possible forensic science topics are being addressed, for example, evidence found, interrogations, suspect behavior (also described below).

SUMMER CLASS CODE is **nlbpxdy**.

Focus on the following areas of Forensic Science:

processing the crime scene, evidence collected or presented in court, the psychological ramifications/behavior of the suspects or victims from each chapter in your chosen book.

Submit your journal to Google Classroom (a Google Classroom page for your class period will be created in September to submit your assignment) by *Monday, September 21, 2020.*

Books are sold on Amazon as used copies (some as kindle versions.)

The Central Park Five: The Untold Story Behind One of New York City's Most Infamous Crimes by Sarah Burns

- Five teenage boys in NYC were convicted of the horrific crimes committed to the “Central Park jogger.” The 1989 case made daily headlines in NYC, which pressured the NYPD to find the assailants at all costs. Problems with the investigation and false confessions, lead to the convicted suspects to fight for freedom.

Devil’s Knot: The True Story of the West Memphis Three by Mara Leveritt

- Three teenage boys were accused and convicted of brutally murdering three 8 year old boys in West Memphis, Arkansas. The investigation and trials were replete with errors. The trials of the 3 teenagers are compared to the Salem Witch Trials.

If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer by The Goldman Family

- The book was actually written by O.J. Simpson, however, due to litigation and money that was owed to the Goldman Family, the rights of the book went to the Goldman Family. Detailed account of the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman through the eyes of O.J. Simpson.

The Last Victim: A True-Life Journey into the Mind of the Serial Killer by Jason Moss

- When writing his honors master’s thesis, Jason Moss decided to study the psyche of serial killers from the perspective of their victims. He wrote letters to various serial killers, taking on the characteristics of the serial killers’ victims.

Killer Girlfriend: The Jodi Arias Story by Brian Skoloff and Josh Hoffner

- The background story of the tumultuous relationship between Jodi Arias and Travis Alexander and her subsequent trial. The story describes how Travis was murdered and the evidence left behind.