

Forensic Psychology

Local Course #: 82424

State Course ID: N1303012

Course Description:

Course Description and Overview

The forensic psychology course will explore the application of psychological science to legal matters. Special attention will be given to developing an understanding of the most prevalent mental disorders that are encountered in forensic evaluations and how forensic psychologists assist judges and juries in determining criminal responsibility and punishment. Students will learn about the insanity defense, capital murder and the death penalty, and competency to stand trial along with a large lesson on Serial Killers. Additional topics to be covered include the psychological underpinnings and motivations for sexual offenses, murder, and repeated criminal behavior and cults.

Link to TEKS:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/learning-support-and-programs/innovative-courses/forensic-psychology2017.pdf>

First 9 Weeks Major Topics:

Introduction to Forensic Psychology TEKS: 1A-C, 2A-D, 3A-D, 4A-D, 5D;

Psychology of Police and Public Safety TEKS: 1D-E, 3F-I, 4A-D, 5D

Second 9 Weeks Major Topics:

Psychology of Investigation TEKS: 2A-E, 3E-I, 4A-F, 5C-D;

Consulting and Testifying, Consulting with Criminal Court, Family Law and Civil Litigation TEKS: 1D-E, 2D-H, 3A-D, 4A-F, 5A, 5E-F

Third 9 Weeks Major Topics:

The Development of Delinquent and Criminal Behavior TEKS: 2B-D, 3B-I, 4A-F, 5A-D;

Psychology of Violence and Victimization, Victimology and Victim Services TEKS: 2A-D, 3B-I, 4A-F, 5A-D

Fourth 9 Weeks Major Topics:

Family Violence and Child Victimization TEKS: 2B-D, 3B-I, 4A-F, 5A-B;

Correction Psychology TEKS: 1A-E, 2A-H, 3B-I, 4A-F, 5D