Course Name: Forensic Science
School Year: 2025-2026

Course Purpose and Relevance:

General requirements. The course is recommended for students in Grades 11 and 12. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry. Recommended prerequisite or corequisite: any Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Career Cluster course. Students must meet the 40% laboratory and fieldwork requirement. This course satisfies a high school science graduation requirement. Students shall be awarded one credit for successful completion of this course.

Overview of Student Outcomes:

- The student demonstrates professional standards/employability skills as required by business and industry. The student is expected to achieve business and industry employability skills standards such as attendance, punctuality, meeting deadlines, working toward personal/team goals every day, and ethical use of technology
- The student, for at least 40% of instructional time, conducts laboratory and/or field investigations using safe, environmentally appropriate, and ethical practices.
- The student uses scientific methods and equipment during laboratory and field investigations.
- The student uses critical thinking, scientific reasoning, and problem solving to make informed decisions within and outside the classroom.
- The student explores the history, legal aspects, and career options within forensic science.
- The student recognizes the procedures of evidence collection while maintaining the integrity of a crime scene.
- The student recognizes the methods to process and analyze trace evidence commonly found in a crime scene.
- The student analyzes impression evidence in forensic science.
- The student analyzes blood spatter at a simulated crime scene.
- The student explores toxicology laboratory procedures in forensic science.
- The student explores serology laboratory procedures in forensic science.
- The student analyzes deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) laboratory procedures in forensic science.
- The student identifies drugs found at a simulated crime scene.
- The student evaluates bullet and tool mark impressions in a criminal investigation.
- The student explores principles of questioned document analysis in forensic science.
- The student explores principles of anthropology relevant to forensic science.
- The student calculates the time and cause of death in relationship to decomposition of the human body.

Available Support for Student Learning:

Refer to the teacher's Course Syllabus for resources and course specific opportunities.
Student textbook and/or digital version are available through the CCISD Student Portal.

Link to Course TEKS on State website:

Forensic Science TEKS Link

Year-at-a-Glance 25-26	Grade Level	Forensic Science

	First Semester Instruction
1st Nine Weeks	**Unit 1: Scientific and Engineering Practices** BB 1: Lab Safety in Forensic Science (2C) BB 2: Exploring Phenomena through Inquiry and Engineering Design (1-5) ***TEKS 1-5 will be embedded throughout each unit supporting the implementation of 3-Dimensional Instruction.***
	Unit 2: History, Careers, Law BB 1: Historical Foundations (6A, 6B) BB 2: Careers and Professionalism (7A, 8A, 8B, 8C) BB3: Legal Systems and Forensics (7B, 7C, 7D, 7E, 9C)
	Unit 3: Crime Scene Evidence BB 1: Observations and Crime Scene Team Roles (9A, 9B, 9C) BB 2: Searching, Documenting, and Sketching the Scene (9D, 9E, 9F) BB 3: Collecting and Preserving Evidence (9G)
	Unit 4: Trace Evidence BB 1: Collecting & Analyzing Hair and Fiber (12A, 12B) BB 2: Hair and Fiber Comparison and Classification (12C, 12D, 12E)
2nd Nine Weeks	**Unit 5: DNA** BB 1: DNA Structure and Function (19C, 19D) BB 2: DNA Analysis (19E, 19F,19G)
	Unit 6: Serology BB 1: Blood Typing (18C, 19A, 19B) BB 2: Blood Spatter (18A, 18B, 18C)
	Unit 7: Toxicology BB 1: Toxins in the Body (17A) BB 2: Detecting and Identifying Toxins (17B, 17C) BB3: Preservation of Toxicology Evidence (17D)
	Unit 8: Controlled Substances and Drug Analysis BB1: Types and Classifications (16A, 16B) BB2: Substance Identification Methods (16C)
	Semester Exam Early Release 12/19

Year-at-a-Glance 25-26	Grade Level	Forensic Science

	Second Semester Instruction
3rd Nine Weeks	**Unit 9: Fingerprinting** BB 1: Fingerprint Patterns and Minutiae (10A, 10B) BB 2: Fingerprint Impressions (10C, 10D) BB 3: Chemical Processes and Identification Systems (10E, 10F, 11D)
	Unit 10: Ballistics BB 1: Firearms Mechanisms and Components (3C, 3D) BB 2: Analysis and Residue (15A, 15B, 15C) BB 3: Trajectory and Information Networks (15D, 15E)
	Unit 11: Human Decomposition BB 1: Time and Cause of Death (5A, 20A, 20B, 20C) BB 2: Entomology (20D)
4th Nine Weeks	**Unit 12: Anthropology/Odontology** BB 1: Skeletal (21A, 21B, 21C) BB 2: Dental (21E) BB 3: Unique Human Characteristics (21D)
	Unit 13: Question Document Examination BB 1: Handwriting Analysis (14C) BB 2: Counterfeiting (14B) BB 3: Ink Analysis (14A)
	Unit 14: Glass Evidence BB 1: Glass Collection and Preservation (13A, 13B) BB 2: Glass Fractures and Analysis (13C, 13D)
	Unit 15: Other Impression Evidence BB 1: Tools and Soil (11A, 11C) BB 2: Tires and Shoe Marks (11B, 11D)
	Semester Exam **Early Release 5/21**