SYLLABUS

FORENSIC SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

with Ms. Jensen

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

WHO IS MS. JENSEN?

My name is Julie Jensen. My passion is teaching science. This is my 13th year teaching high school, and **I am so glad to have you in my class this year!** I am a caring mother of 2 grow children, Brooklynn and Louis. I am a nature lover, and you can find me hiking, kayaking, fishing, and camping, even when its below freezing! I am a wonderer, traveling to places both near and far. I love you already and want you succeed. Please come to talk to me during tutorials if you are confused or stuck with an assignment. I am happy to help!

CONTACT ME:

JULIE.JENSEN@SAISD.ORG 325-659-3411 X 268 TUCKER 113

Tutorial Times: Before School 7:40 Am Mon &Wed **After School** 4:00-4:30 Wed & Thurs **Bobcat Block** Tues, Wed & Thurs

Students may also contact me through Schoology; you will automatically be enrolled once school begins.

Conference Period: 5A Period (12:44-1:33)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Forensic Science will introduce you to the application of science to connect a violation of law to a specific criminal, criminal act, or behavior and victim. You will learn terminology and procedures related to the search and examination of physical evidence in criminal cases as they are performed in a typical crime laboratory.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Our course will align with the Forensic Science TEKS. In summary, here are the units we will cover this year:

Introduction to Forensics
- Brief history & intro to FS
- Legal Aspects
- 7 S's of CSI
- Evidence

Case Study 1: Harrington Heist
- Hair & Fiber
- Toolmarks and Impressions
- Soil Evidence
- Fingerprints

Case Study 2: Shots Fired
- Glass Evidence

Shots Fired, cont.
- Firearms and Ballistics
- Questioned Documents
- Blood Spatter

Case Study 3: Shadows on the Path
- Serology
- DNA
- Controlled Substances

Case Study 4: Frozen Secrets
- Death and Decomposition
- Anthropology
- Odontology

SUPPLIES

You'll need a 1 1/2-inch binder, 5 divider tabs, ink pens, pencils, a charged school issued Chromebook and charger, and 2 poster boards.

TEXTBOOK

Forensic Science: Fundamentals & Investigations , 3rd Edition (Course key: MTPN-MG7G-FX09)

GRADING PROCEDURES

Grades are broken into two categories: 60 % Major; 40% minor. You will receive a minimum of 3 major grades and 12 minor grades each 9 weeks. Report cards with your grades will be issued once every 9 weeks electronically.

% and Letter Grade		Achievement level
90-100%	A	Outstanding Achievement
80-89%	B	Above Average Achievement
70-79%	C	Average Achievement
Below 70%	D	Unsatisfactory Achievement

HOMEWORK & LATEWORK

Homework will consist of work you did not finish in class and studying for tests. Your homework is due when class begins. When you come in, turn your homework in immediately. It is considered late, after the bell rings, even if it's just a second. If your homework is not complete, you may turn in your homework up to 3 schooldays later, but there is a penalty (see table to the below.)

How Late?	Deduction
On time	0 points
1 min-1 day late	10 points
>1 day-2 days late	20 points
>2 days- 3 days late*	30 points

*Any work turned in after it is three days late can be assigned points at the discretion of the teacher.

CORRECTION & RETEST POLICY

If you fail an **assignment,** you will have the opportunity to correct the assignment to earn up to a 70%. Only questions with fair attempt effort are eligible for corrections. In other words, if blank answers may not be corrected. Corrections are due within 3 school days after being returned an assignment.

If you fail a **test,** you may retake a similar, but different test to earn up to a 70%. Binders Cannot be used on retests. Retests must be taken during tutorials or Bobcat block and must be completed within 5 school days after the test is returned.

Corrections are not allowed on Binderchecks because you know well in advance when they are due, but late binders are accepted following the policy above.

GROUP & MAJOR GRADES

Unit Major Grades: You will earn at least on grade over the unit whether it is in the form of an open binder exam or lab/forensic report.

Binderchecks: We will have binders checks periodically throughout the year as major grades, usually coinciding with the end of a grading period or case study.

We will be doing **partner/group projects/lab reports** frequently throughout the school year. All projects are due for all members of the group on the due date. If you have concerns because you will be away at an extra-curricular event, such as StuCo, TAFE, FFA, sports, band, etc., talk to me when the project is assigned, and I will sort out the specifics with you.

MAKE-UP POLICY

In general, your make up work will be in "the Tower" the next class period, but you can find your assignments on Schoology. You have the number of days you were absent, plus one to complete missed work, unless we settle on a different date. **It is your responsibility to turn in your makeup work.** If you do not turn in your makeup work by the due date, you will receive a zero.

In cases of planned absences (i.e. school trips) you are expected to turn work in on the due date unless you make arrangements ahead of time.

CLASSROOM RULES & EXPECTATIONS

As a teacher I am a firm believer in mutual respect. As such, you will have a voice in helping develop our social contract. The Social Contract is one of the most important and necessary tools within our classroom. Our social contract is our teacher and student's behavior agreement. We will work together to build it at the beginning of the school year.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

We will use Chromebooks often in our classroom. You may only use your school issued Chromebooks in my classroom for schoolwork. It is your responsibility to keep it charged. In general, **you will not be allowed to use your phone or personal device.**

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Per district rules and House Bill 1481, students may not use or have visible any electronic devices—such as phones, smartwatches, earbuds, headphones, tablets, gaming devices, or pagers—on campus during the school day, including passing periods and lunch.
If your device is **out and visible** during the school day, any staff member will take it, lock it in a secure place, write a referral, and turn it over to admin.

Consequences: Parent must pick up confiscated devices. Holds increase with each offense: 1st - same day; 2nd - 3 days; 3rd - 10 days; 4th+ - 90 days.

Refusing to give up your device = out-of-school suspension.