



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

Center for Wildlife Forensics and Conservation Studies

W. Roger Webb Forensic Science Institute

Recommended Wildlife Forensic Science Courses and Faculty Mentors



FRSC 2503 - Introduction to Forensic Science

Introduction to Forensic Science is a survey course designed to acquaint the student with a comprehensive understanding of today's crime laboratories and investigative techniques involving the proper collection, preservation, and analysis of evidence. The student is introduced to scientific, technological, and experientially based procedures as they are applied in the criminal justice system.

– Dr. Dwight Adams, dadams8@uco.edu, 405-974-6910

FRSC 3043 - Crime Scene Processing

The course serves as a comprehensive review of all aspects of evidence collection and preservation. Students will learn the process to crime scene management and become proficient in recognizing evidence and determining the proper packaging and preservation methods. Basic methods in crime scene photography, sketching, and documentation will be explored. Students will demonstrate and enhance their understanding of lecture material through actual practical exercises in mock crime scenes.

PREREQUISITES: FRSC 2503

– Dr. Wayne Lord, wlord1@uco.edu, 405-974-6918

FRSC 2733 - DNA for Crime Scene Investigator

DNA for Crime Scene Investigators serves as an introduction to the fundamental principles of forensic biology and DNA analysis. In this course, students will explore practical topics and current challenges in forensic DNA analysis; the interaction between crime scene investigation and DNA analysis; the basic

principles of DNA analysis; communication of results from DNA analysis; the role DNA analysis plays in the multidisciplinary approach to crime scene investigation; and legal considerations regarding the use of DNA analysis. The topics above will be presented through lecture, case presentations, and student driven discussion.

– Dr. James Creecy, jcreecy@uco.edu, 405-974-6920

FRSC 2823 - Wildlife Forensics

Wildlife forensic science is a relatively new and diverse discipline in the forensic sciences. Practitioners of wildlife forensics include experts in biology to pathology to digital evidence. The range of subjects that a wildlife forensic investigator may come across makes this an interesting if not challenging job prospect. The crimes that could be investigated include poaching, smuggling, and illegal pet trade to just name a few. This course will examine the different specialties that might be required in a wildlife forensic investigation and how the case will be approached.

– Dr. Wayne Lord, wlord1@uco.edu, 405-974-6919

– Dr. Brandt Cassidy, bcassidy@uco.edu, 405-974-6923

FRSC 4943 - Field Wildlife Forensic Science

Field Wildlife Forensic Science (FWFS) provides a unique introduction to the marine forensic sciences and the special rules and practices governing the utilization of marine biology and environmental science within the justice system. Field Wildlife Forensic Science is offered at the Shoals Marine Laboratory (SML), Isles of Shoals, and Maine. The SML is a summer marine field station operated jointly by Cornell University and the University of New Hampshire. In addition to UCO tuition, additional per-student travel-related expenses (offsetting SML field station room, board, whale watch excursion, and laboratory/necropsy facilities use), are applicable.

– Dr. Wayne Lord, wlord1@uco.edu, 405-974-6918

FRSC 3123 - Criminal Procedure for Forensic Science

Criminal Procedure for Forensic Science serves as an overview of the American criminal justice system, with particular emphasis on those procedures and processes most applicable to the field of forensic science and criminal investigations. Students will be introduced to the constitutional, procedural and administrative aspects of the U.S. justice system and the roles of the many entities and agencies which comprise the system. Students will undertake a study of the laws of arrest and search and seizure, the rules of evidence and the rules of criminal procedure which dictate the manner in which forensic evidence and analysis are introduced and challenged in court. Among the areas specifically addressed will be constitutional law, the phases of jury and bench trials, authentication of evidence, general and expert testimony, rules of discovery, rules of ethics, interagency cooperation, record keeping and retention, and handling and disposition of physical evidence.

– Dr. John Mabry, jmabry1@uco.edu, 405-974-6913

