

Year 9/10 Forensic Science

Semester 2 Course Outline

In this course, students will learn how scientific investigations are used to solve crimes. They will learn how evidence is collected, analysed using equipment in our science laboratory (just like a forensic laboratory), and how the evidence is used in the criminal case presented in court. Students will undertake practical exercises and examination in blood spatter evidence, use of ballistics, fingerprinting, DNA analysis, and plaster casts of impressions as a guide in understanding the general significance of a range of evidence presented in the courtroom. The unit combines scientific theory balanced with practical and online activities to help students gain an understanding of the concepts of crime scene investigations.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be assessed on the following Learning Outcomes:

- 10.430 - Develops questions and hypotheses and independently designs and improves appropriate methods of investigation, including field work and laboratory experimentation
- 7.397 - Summarise data from different sources, describes trends and refers to the quality of data when suggesting improvements to methods
- 7.398 - Communicates ideas, methods and findings using scientific language and appropriate representations.
- 7.396 - Draws on evidence to support conclusions
- 7.392 - Explains possible implications of the solution for different groups in society.
- 7.391 - Describes situations where scientific knowledge from different science disciplines and diverse cultures has been used to solve a real-world problem

Assessment Tasks

Students will be assessed on their participation and completion of classwork and assessment tasks.

| Task | Week Due* |
|--|----------------|
| Assignment 1: Murder of Graeme Thorne (comprehension/article analysis) | Term 3, Week 6 |
| Assignment 2: Death of Mr Potato Head (time of death data logger practical/report) | Term 4, Week 6 |
| Classwork (google classroom) | Ongoing |
| Practicals assessment | Ongoing |
| Formative Assessment | Ongoing |

*Due dates are an estimate only

Teacher: Alan Giles

Executive Teacher: Darren King