### Course Title:
Special Topics: Introduction to Forensic Science

### Department:
Social Science

### Curriculum:
Criminal Justice

### Course Code:
 SCI*298

### Prerequisites:
C- or better in English Composition (ENG*101) AND C- or better in Introduction to Criminal Justice (CJS*101)

### Course Descriptors:
Make certain that the course descriptors are consistent with college and Board of Trustees policies, and the current course numbering system.

### Course Type:
L/D

### Elective Type:

### Credit Hours:
4

### Contact Hours:
- Lecture: 3
- Clinical: 0
- Lab: 2
- Studio: 0
- Other: 0
- TOTAL: 5

### Class Maximum:
20

### Semesters Offered:
F/S

### Ability Based Education (ABE) Statement:
At Tunxis Community College students are assessed on the knowledge and skills they have learned. The faculty identified the General Education Abilities critical to students’ success in their professional and personal lives. In every class, students are assessed on course abilities, sometimes program abilities, and, in most classes, at least one General Education Ability. Students will receive an evaluation of the degree to which they have demonstrated or not demonstrated that General Education Ability.

### Catalog Course Description:
Will clarify forensic science for a wide variety of students who are aligned with the criminal justice or forensic science profession. It will emphasize the role of the crime scene investigator in preserving, recording, and collecting physical evidence at the crime scene. The use of DNA in forensics will be explained in a manner that is comprehensible and relevant.

### Topical Outline:
1. Introduction to Forensic Science
2. Physical Evidence
3. Recording the Crime Scene and Collection of Crime Scene Evidence
4. Crime Scene Reconstruction

### Date submitted:
Fall 2014 (ACC: 14-135)
5. Fingerprints
6. Impressions, Firemarks and Toolmarks
7. Bloodstain Analysis
8. Trace Evidence
9. Document Examination
10. Drugs
11. Forensic Toxicology
12. Computer Forensics

Laboratory
1. Introduction / Scientific Method
2. Documentation / Identification
3. Crime Scene Photography
4. Evidence Collection
5. Fingerprint Analysis
6. Impressions
7. Bloodstain Pattern Analysis & Body Fluid Analysis
8. DNA Analysis / Gel Electrophoresis
9. Hair and Fiber Analysis / Microscopy
10. Soil Identification
11. Forgery Detection / Handwriting Analysis
12. Crime Scene Analysis I
13. Crime Scene Analysis II
14. Lab Practical: General Unknowns, Final Exam

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. demonstrate the ability to determine appropriate conclusions based upon scientific evidence
2. apply critical thinking skills to solve problems in criminal justice, using the scientific method.
3. demonstrate the ability to discriminate between real science and science fiction
4. use evidence and experimental data to draw valid scientific conclusions.
   construct accurate reports using accepted scientific procedures.

PROGRAM: (Numbering reflects Program Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)

GENERAL EDUCATION: (Numbering reflects General Education Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)

6. Oral Communication - Students will be prepared to develop oral messages of varying lengths and styles that communicate effectively and appropriately across a variety of settings.
   
   Demonstrates: Delivers oral presentations using appropriate evidence and appeals as determined by the rhetorical situation.
   
   Does Not Demonstrate: Delivers oral presentations lacking appropriate evidence and appeals as determined by the rhetorical situation.

9. Scientific Reasoning - Students will become familiar with science as a method of inquiry. Students will develop a habit of mind that uses quantitative skills to solve problems and make informed decisions.
   
   Demonstrates: Identifies and successfully executes components of the scientific method
(hypothesis, procedure, observations, data analysis, and conclusions) to investigate real-world phenomena.

**Does Not Demonstrate:** Misidentifies or poorly executes components of the scientific method (hypothesis, procedure, observations, data analysis, or conclusions) to investigate real-world phenomena.

**Evaluation:**
List how the above outcomes will be assessed.

Assessment will be based on the following criteria:
Written assignments, Laboratory reports, and exams.

**Instructional Resources:**
List library (e.g. books, journals, online resources), technological (e.g. Smartboard, software), and other resources (e.g. equipment, supplies, facilities) required and desired to teach this course.

Required: **Forensic Science; Richard Saferstein;** latest edition
Desired: **Example of Kits from Carolina Scientific:**
1. Bloodstain Pattern Analysis & Body Fluid Analysis
2. Hair and Fiber Analysis and Microscopy
3. Handwriting Analysis

**Textbook(s)**