

Course Syllabus

Salt Lake Community College

CJ 1340: Criminal Investigations

Course Description

This course teaches students different investigative techniques available to criminal investigators, such as surveillance, undercover operations, interviewing, and wiretapping. Students learn legal parameters of criminal investigations and develop strategies to investigate mock scenarios.

Recommended Course Prerequisite

- CJ 1010: Introduction to Criminal Justice

Course Learning Outcomes

Identify legal parameters of investigative techniques.

Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of investigative techniques.

Develop investigative strategies to effectively investigate mock scenarios.

Communicate investigative findings of mock scenarios in a written document (such as an affidavit, investigative report, or case summary).

Required Material

- Reading Material
 - All reading material is embedded into this Course in Canvas. This course utilizes free, publicly accessible learning material.
- Computer with ability to view videos on Canvas

Use of Canvas

You are required to use Canvas in this course. The modules section of Canvas (see left-hand side of the screen) will guide you through this class from week to week.

Sometimes there are technical quirks with Canvas. Students that use Google Chrome seem to have the least amount of technical problems. (Click [here](#) for more information about basic computer specifications for using Canvas.)

The Canvas Support Hotline is (844) 334-0397. They can assist if you are having technical issues (i.e., your computer froze on you and you were unable to submit an assignment). There is also a Help function on the left-hand side of Canvas with other options such as a chat function.

Minimum Technical Skills

- Must be able to Navigate Canvas
 - I've provided some [links](#) to videos that may help you navigate Canvas
- Must be able to format and submit typed material in Microsoft Word (or other word processors recognized by Canvas)

Individual Counseling

Please send me a message in Canvas, or visit me during my office hours, anytime that you have questions about the course material.

Response Time and Feedback

General Questions

- For general questions (i.e., clarification about an assignment, clarification about the assignment's due date), expect to receive a response the following business day.
 - Do not *expect* a response on non-business days (Saturdays, Sundays, holidays).

Grading Assignments

- Generally, I will wait until the deadline of an assignment has passed before grading that assignment for the course. Grading may take up to **three business days** after the deadline for the assignment has passed.
 - The length of time between submitting an assignment and receiving feedback will increase the further you get ahead in this class.

Grading

All assignments have been published and are accessible in the Assignments section of Canvas. All assignments have point values assigned to them, which are accessible to you. However, the weight of an assignment is relative to the category in which the assignment resides.

Quizzes: 40%

Investigative Strategies Assignments: 30%

Affidavit: 30%

Grading Scale

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62

Anything below a score of 60 is a failing grade.

SLCC Mission, Vision, and Values

MISSION

Salt Lake Community College is your community college. We engage and support students in educational pathways leading to successful transfer and meaningful employment.

VISION

Salt Lake Community College will be a model for inclusive and transformative education, strengthening the communities we serve through the success of our students.

VALUES

We don't just state our values; we live them through dedicated, collective effort. Our values ground our future endeavors and help us realize our mission of being an open-access, comprehensive community college committed to the transfer education and workforce needs of our students.

- **Collaboration** - We believe we're better when we work together.
- **Community** - We partner with our community in the transformative, public good of educating students.
- **Inclusivity** - We seek to cultivate an environment of respect and empathy, advanced by diverse cultures and perspectives.
- **Learning** - We learn as a College by building outstanding educational experiences for students and by supporting faculty and staff in their professional development.
- **Innovation** - We value fresh thinking and encourage the energy of new ideas and initiatives.
- **Integrity** - We do the right things for the right reasons.
- **Trust** - We build trust by working together in good faith and goodwill to fulfill the College's mission.

Incomplete Policy

Contact me if the last day to withdrawal has already passed and circumstances beyond your control prevent you from successfully completing this course. This course will follow Salt Lake Community College's Incomplete policy.

Late Work

- Assignments can be turned in up to one week late without the loss of credit. After one week, the assignments lock out and submissions cannot be made. If you have extenuating circumstances, you must coordinate with me prior to the assignment locking out.
 - The exception to this rule is that no assignments will be accepted after May 2. Therefore, classwork due on May 2 cannot be turned in late.

Extra Credit

There are numerous extra credit opportunities available in this course. I have created an Extra Credit module. It is located at the very bottom of modules section in this section. All extra credit opportunities will be located there (among other places, such as the Assignments tab).

Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to follow the SLCC Student Code of Conduct. **Plagiarism may result in a failure of this course.** Be very careful to give proper credit (such as the use of quotations) to work that is not your own!

Course Schedule, Assignments, and Activities

Week	Reading Material	Assignments and Activities
Week 1	Module 1, Introduction to Criminal Investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Introduction to Criminal Investigations
Week 2	Module 2, Legal Parameters (1 st module)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Legal Parameters (1st module)
Week 3	Module 3, Legal Parameters (2 nd module)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Legal Parameters (2nd module)
Week 4	Module 4, Crime Scene Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Crime Scene Processing
Week 5	Module 5, Interviewing Techniques and Detecting Deception	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Interviewing Techniques and Detecting Deception
Week 6	Module 6, Report Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Report Writing,• Effective Strategy Assignment #1 Due
Week 7	Module 7, Undercover	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz: Undercover Operations and Use of Informants

	Operations and Use of Informants	
Week 8	Module 8, Wiretapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Wiretapping
Week 9	Module 9, Introduction to Court Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Introduction to Court Documents
Week 10	Module 10, Search Warrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Search Warrants, • Effective Strategy Assignment #2 Due
Week 11	Module 11, Subpoenas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Subpoenas
Week 12	Module 12, Practice Writing Affidavits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Affidavits • Non-graded Affidavit Draft Due
Week 13	Module 13, Sexual Assault Investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Sexual Assault Investigations
Week 14	Module 14, Emerging Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Emerging Issues
Week 15	Module 15, The Changing Nature of Crime and Criminal Investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: The Changing Nature of Crime and Criminal Investigations
Week 16	Module 16, Courtroom Testimony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz: Courtroom Testimony
Final Exam Week	Review All Material	Affidavit Due