

## *Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

BIOL 3318.001.16F                      Forensic Biology                      Fall 2016  
Aug 26, 2016 – Dec 09, 2016      Fri 1:00 – 3:45 pm

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### **Professor Contact Information**

Uyen Henson  
*Email Address*                                      uyen.henson@utdallas.edu

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### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

None

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### **Course Description**

This course covers different disciplines in forensic science including crime scene investigation, fingerprints, firearms, trace evidence and drugs. Emphasis is placed on the theory and practice techniques of biological principles applied to forensic science, including sample collection, analytical techniques, DNA profile comparison, and quality control/quality assurance. The course is structured to allow individuals with and without biological training to participate.

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### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

Become familiar with the fundamentals of various disciplines in forensic science, with an emphasis on forensic biology and DNA.

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### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

None

### **Suggested Course Materials**

*Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science* by Richard Saferstein is recommended

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### **Assignments & Academic Calendar**

*(Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lesson</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
08/26	Syllabus	
09/02	Intro to Forensic Science, Physical Evidence	
09/09	Drugs, Forensic Toxicology	Quiz #1 due
09/16	Trace evidence - Hairs, Fibers and Paint	
09/23	Fingerprint Processing and Comparison	Quiz #2 due
09/30	Firearms, Toolmarks, and Other Impressions	
10/07	Mid-term exam review	Quiz #3 due

10/14	<b>Mid-term Exam</b>	
10/21	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis	
10/28	Crime Scene, Evidence Processing, Reconstruction	
11/04	Intro to Forensic Serology – Blood and Semen	
11/11	Intro/History of DNA	Quiz #4 due
11/18	DNA Comparisons, Interpretation and Statistics	
11/25	<i>Thanksgiving Break – no class</i>	Quiz #5 due
12/02	Innocence Project and Final exam review	
12/09	<b>Final Exam – 1:00-3:45pm (tentative)</b>	

### **Grading Policy**

Grades for the course will be calculated as follows:

Lecture Exams (2) 50% and Quizzes (5) 50%

Grading scale:

A+	100-97	A	96-94	A-	93-90
B+	89-87	B	86-84	B-	83-80
C+	79-77	C	76-74	C-	73-70
D+	69-67	D	66-64	D-	63-60
F	59 and below				

Grades will be calculated through eLearning. Final grade will be rounded to the nearest integer, e.g., 89.5 = 90; 89.49 = 89.

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

#### *Make-up exams*

If there are circumstances that warrant a make-up exam, the instructor will determine the criteria for such an exam at the appropriate time. Legitimate reasons to make-up missed exams (e.g. death of a family member and medical emergencies) must be presented in writing.

#### *Class Attendance*

Although attendance will not be counted towards the final grade, participation is anticipated.

#### *Extra-credit*

Extra credit will be awarded for observation of court cases which the students will be notified of the week of the trial.

### **Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities**

*None*

### **Comet Creed**

*This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:*

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

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## **UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures**

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

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*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*